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## OUR DIARY.

ADVERTISERS should secure at once the space they require in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1898.

We go to press with it thus early because we make a point of delivering it to Colonial and Foreign subscribers before the New Year.

Which means that several thousand copies must be bound as well as printed within the next fortnight.

It also indicates to advertisers how distinctly valuable advertising is in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

Most people know how popular the *C. & D.* is at home; how every chemist and drug-merchant of good position makes a point of reading it every week to see what is new. It is just the same abroad—there are few of our colonial chemists who do not get it.

The DIARY is used every day of the year in thousands of pharmacies all over the world. Advertise in it because it pays to do so, for it appeals to the widest circle of the best drug-buyers in the British Empire.



THERE is more about Kelso water on p. 682.

A KODAK EXHIBITION is now open in the New Gallery (p. 681).

THE MINOR EXAMINATION is exciting the *Scotsman* (p. 697).

TWO JERSEY CHEMISTS are in difficulties just now (p. 681).

A NEW SONG, "The Pharmaceutical Student," is printed on p. 687.

COPPERAS at 1s. 3d. per cwt. is an item of this week's news (p. 681).

A NUMBER of meetings of Chemists' Associations are reported on p. 685.

THE NEW WAY of curing vanilla is fully described, with illustrations, on p. 696.

CHEMISTS are taking a leading part in the Sub-post-masters' Association (p. 681).

MR. OTTO HEHNER'S views regarding the use of preservatives in food are given on p. 680.

THE proposals of medical men for the creation of a medical monopoly are discussed on p. 694.

THE CHEMISTS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY is finishing up its career with police-court proceedings (p. 680).

A FULLER REPORT on the Gregory's-powder case is printed on p. 691, and commented upon on p. 698.

AN INTERESTING DEMONSTRATION-LECTURE in practical microscopy by Mr. Martin Cole is reported on p. 688.

THE Manchester Chemists' Association have issued a suggested price-list for retail and dispensing (p. 698).

THREE wholesale firms write to dissociate themselves from the announcements of Frair's Female Medicines (p. 680).

A SKETCH of the historic Micklegate House, York, now an annexe to Raimes's wholesale drug-warehouse, is given on p. 680.

THE PRESIDENT of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has received the Jubilee Medal from the Queen (p. 700).

M. MOISSAN has given a graphic, though humorous, account of the founding of the Chicago University to the French Institute (p. 683).

THE sale of 100,000 Homoea Jubilee pincushions has been discussed before Mr. Justice Mathew, who touched the spot to the tune of 200*l.* (p. 691).

THE report of the Indian Famine Relief Committee just issued in India comments in laudatory terms on several well-known English proprietary foods (p. 683).

THE discussion on profits on proprietary articles is maintained in our correspondence columns. Mr. Beecham replies to Mr. Glyn-Jones, and Mr. Glyn-Jones replies to Mr. Day (p. 708).

MR. RHODIN, a Swedish chemist, has devised a new electrolytic arrangement by which he claims to decompose common salt with the production of caustic soda and pure chlorine (p. 695).

MR. E. M. HOLMES has given Plymouth young chemists good advice on how pharmaceutical business can be conserved by judicious union of commercial and technical knowledge (p. 687).

MR. NEWSHOLME, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, delivered an opening address to the Nottingham Chemists' Association. The burden of his discourse was the virtues of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 690).

SIR CHARLES CAMERON gave the opening address to the Irish Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy. It was a lively sketch of the development of pharmacy from the apothecary stage, with notes on famous pharmacists (p. 685).





Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Wholesale Druggists Annex an Old Mansion.

The new premises occupied by Messrs. Raimes & Co., wholesale druggists, of York, have been adopted for their business from a house which in the latter half of the last century was one of the centres of the fashionable life, and the largest family residence in the city. It was known as Micklegate House, and was the town house of the Bouchiers, of Beningbrough Hall, an ancient but now extinct family. It was built about 1750, and well deserves the designation of



mansion, for it was intended to remain and has remained a monument of substantial construction for many generations. The doors, the panels, the chimney-pieces, the cornices, the ceilings all show what good work was accomplished in those days. The iron hand-gates at the entrance are a beautiful example of smiths' work, and an ornamental lead tank for rain-water which remains in the area is a specimen of the artistic work of the plumber of 150 years ago. It bears the date of 1753 on it. A lengthy illustrated account of this interesting old house is given in the September number of the *Architectural Review*.

#### Mr. Hehner on Chemical Preservatives.

Mr. Otto Hehner, public analyst for the Isle of Wight, in his last report refers to some samples of cream which contained boracic acid as a preservative. "There have been several prosecutions," he states, "in various parts of the

country for the sale of articles of food containing boracic acid, but considering that the preservatives are not added to food with a fraudulent intention, I am of opinion that however undesirable the addition of any chemicals whatever must be the present Acts are powerless to check the practice. Preservatives, while undoubtedly useful in delaying the decomposition of valuable food material, are all-powerful chemicals, and as such cannot be without undesirable influence upon health. They tend to interfere with digestion, if not with the more robust, yet with children and invalids. But their use has become almost universal; hardly any butter is now sold which does not contain from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 per cent. of boracic acid or borax; nearly all bacon is cured with salt and borax, as is also fish. Potted cream mostly contains it; beer, lime-juice, and other beverages contain sulphites; jams salicylic acid—in fact, it may be safely asserted that every inhabitant of this country takes two or three doses of physic, unwittingly, with his daily meals. Direct noxious effects are very rarely traceable, and no doubt the preservatives chosen are comparatively harmless; but when it is considered that the use of such preservatives has been directly sanctioned by legislature in the case of butter—the Margarine Act laying down that butter may be sold with or without salt or other preservative—it is difficult to imagine that what is legalised in the case of butter is illegal in that of cream. The whole subject most urgently calls for proper State regulation. If preservatives are admissible, the fact that such are present in food ought in justice to be clearly notified by the vendor, so that the consumer may avoid them if he finds they do not agree with him. In almost all civilised countries the use of preservatives in food is either entirely forbidden or is at least properly regulated by law; England almost alone has allowed the subject to be treated by everyone according to his fancy."

#### A Reminiscence of the Chemists' Co-operative Society (Limited).

On Monday last Mr. T. D. Dutton, solicitor, applied to Mr. Marsham at the Westminster Police Court for a summons against Dr. G. B. Clark, M.P., for an assault on Mr. Douglas, manager of the Chemists' Co-operative Society, an unsuccessful concern, of which Dr. Clark is liquidator. On the previous Thursday, Mr. Dutton stated, Dr. Clark called on the complainant and asked him why he had sent out circulars convening a directors' meeting, to which the latter replied that he had simply obeyed the orders of his chairman. Thereupon, it is alleged, Dr. Clark lost his temper, declared he was master and would do as he liked, and told Mr. Douglas to get about his business. In pursuance of this mandate, added the solicitor, the manager walked out of the room, but was followed by the M.P., who, after abusing him in a disgraceful manner, grasped him by the throat, tearing his necktie, and bruising him considerably. The summons was granted.

#### For a Conjuring-experiment.

William S. Bannister was charged before the Coventry Magistrates, on October 22, with attempting to commit suicide by taking a strong solution of corrosive sublimate. The prisoner said he took a great interest in chemistry, and had a small laboratory of his own. He had prepared the corrosive sublimate to make a conjuring-experiment at a friend's house, such solution, with another one, making a blood precipitate. He was too scientific, if he wished to take his life, to select corrosive sublimate for the purpose, as the pain and misery he had endured were beyond description. The Bench discharged the prisoner.

#### Retired Chemist's Fatal Dose of Morphia.

An inquest was held at Chobham, on October 20, by Dr. W. W. Lake, respecting the death of Mr. Wm. Pauncefort Duncombe, a retired chemist and druggist, living at St. Julien's, Chobham, who died on the previous Saturday from the effects of morphia-poisoning. The son of the deceased stated that his father was a retired chemist, aged 57. On the previous Thursday evening he was in fair health, but the next day, contrary to custom, he kept to his room. As he had suffered from sleeplessness for a whole week he was not disturbed. At 9 o'clock on Friday evening witness went to his father's room, and found deceased lying on the floor



as if he had fallen out of bed. He was very cold, and apparently dead. On a closer investigation witness found that he was breathing slightly, and, after lifting him on the bed, he sent for Dr. Hope. On a pedestal near the bed was a bottle containing morphia, and a measuring-glass was in the room, but not near the bottle. His father had been taking morphia for neuralgia for at least twenty years.

Dr. Phipps, who made a *post-mortem*, said the stomach contained 6 gr. or more of morphia, and death was due to poisoning. Two grains would kill anyone not accustomed to the drug. A verdict of death from accidentally taking an overdose of morphia was returned.

#### Vicissitudes of Jersey Chemists.

At last Saturday's sitting of the Royal Court of Jersey confirmation was obtained, unopposed, of the arrest of Mr. John Anley (chemist) for payment of a note-of-hand of 11*l.* 10*s.*, and the Sub-Sheriff recorded that he admitted the debt, but declined to come from gaol into court to formally do so. Mr. Anley formerly carried on business in Library Place, and then in New Street (where his stock-in-trade was sold before the officer of justice), and he had intended re-opening in King Street; for, though unqualified otherwise, he was granted permission to practise by the Court, as having been in business before the new Pharmacy Act came into force. Mr. Anley at one time did an extensive business in two specifics—his "Anti-gastrodynia," a remedy for sea-sickness, and a "Corn-cure," which he used to modestly advertise as commanding the "largest sale in the world."

At the same sitting of the Jersey Court M. Camille Hazart, a French chemist settled in that island, sued M. Alfred Holaind for 6*l.* 5*s.*, rent due for a pharmacy at St. Aubin, which M. Hazart had let to M. Holaind. The latter had taken the shop at the rent of 25*l.* per year, but had not paid the first quarterly instalment, and had now left the island. Plaintiff asked that a distraint be confirmed, the lease cancelled, and immediate re-possession of the premises given him, also 10*l.* damages. The Court acquiesced, though granting 2*l.* damages only. M. Hazart has gained some notoriety for having repeatedly sold his pharmacies in the towns of St. Helier and St. Aubin.

#### The Chemist's Boy.

James Hall, a boy of 13, and his mother, Annie Hall, a respectably dressed woman, were indicted at the Stafford Quarter Sessions, the former with stealing, on September 13 last, at Burton-on-Trent, and the latter with receiving, postage-stamps to the value of 7*s.* 4*d.* and a postal-order value 10*s.*, the property of the lad's employer, Thomas Ottey, chemist, Burton-on-Trent. There was a further charge of stealing and receiving, on September 22, three postal-orders value 18*s.* 9*d.*, and postage-stamps value 1*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The lad pleaded guilty, and was bound over to come up for judgment if called upon; but the evidence went to show that the mother had had no part in the matter, and she was discharged.

#### Chemists as Sub-postmasters.

Mr. F. Coates, chemist, New Basford, has been elected President of the lately-formed Nottingham branch of the Sub-postmasters' Federation. Mr. W. T. Palmer, Union Road, Mr. J. T. Rayson, Alfred Street, Mr. F. Lumby, Arkwright Street, and Mr. R. H. Beverley, Derby Road, all chemists, are also members of the branch.

#### A Kodak Exhibition.

There was opened at the New Gallery, 121A Regent Street, W., on Monday, an exhibition of photographs and photographic apparatus by the Eastman Photographic Materials Company (Limited) which in several respects beats the Salon and the Royal, the former in the elegance of decoration, and the latter in number and variety of pictures. Starting in the Central Hall, one finds there a good selection of Kodaks and appliances, including a new folding Kodak which puts the pocket one to shame, for although it takes pictures double the size it folds into a neat small parcel 1½ inch thick. To the left of this hall is the South Gallery, which is devoted entirely to technical exhibits. These will, for many reasons, interest chemists most, because it consists chiefly of pictures made upon solio and bromide papers, but

differently exposed, toned, developed, and "faked," so that the variety of tone and artistic effect obtainable by the different chemical and mechanical means is seen at a glance. Here also the qualities and utility of the film are fully exposed. The North Gallery is devoted to competition pictures, of which nearly 25,000 are shown, the majority of them very tiny; and the West Gallery contains about 200 pictures from negatives by well-known photographers, the pictures being enlargements by the Eastman Company. These exhibits are unequal in merit; some pictures are good, but others are very ordinary, and we are sorry that we must class amongst the latter those done by royal personages, who are all much addicted to placing a spaniel or a baby in the foreground. The Princess of Wales has sent several snapshots in which she caught Prince Charles of Denmark courting her daughter Maud, and it is interesting to note that the royal couple can no more sit down on a garden-seat without two arms disappearing round the back than can any spooney couple in a humbler station of life. The exhibition will be open for three weeks.

#### L.C.C. Chemical-contract.

Last week the Main Drainage Committee of the L.C.C. submitted the tenders which had been received for the supply of proto-sulphate of iron to the Barking and Crossness outfall-works, and on that occasion the tenders were withdrawn at the request of the Chairman of the Committee. At Tuesday's meeting of the Council it was agreed that, subject to the inquiries being satisfactory, the tender of Mr. D. Matthews, of Swansea, for the supply and delivery of 2,500 tons of proto-sulphate of iron at 22*s.* 6*d.* per ton be accepted.

#### Youths Break into a Chemist's Shop.

At Blackburn Quarter Sessions, two youths, named Harper and Whalley, were indicted for breaking and entering the shop of Mr. Daniel Yates, chemist and druggist, and stealing several articles and 4*s.* 6*d.* in money on August 3. Harper pleaded guilty and Whalley not guilty. Two police constables discovered the prisoners in an outhouse at the rear of the premises, and it was subsequently found that the premises had been entered. The prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced each to twelve months' hard labour.

#### Fire at a Wholesale Druggists'.

A fire broke out in some cellars on the premises of Messrs. Wyleys, Coventry, on Tuesday afternoon. The volunteer fire-brigade proceeded to the spot. It was found that the outbreak had occurred in a cellar stored chiefly with oils and turpentine; but the efforts of the brigade were well supplemented by the factory workpeople. Several jets were brought into use, and the fire, which might soon have become serious, was extinguished in about twenty minutes.

#### Guardians on Bovril.

At the meeting of Chippenham Guardians on Monday, it was stated that some time ago the district medical officers were instructed to use discretion in ordering bovril as medical relief instead of beef and mutton. One of the guardians moved that bovril should not be given, but it was pointed out that in some places beef and mutton could not be obtained, whereas bovril could. The motion was negatived.

#### An Agricultural Analyst's Qualifications.

The Holland (Lines) County Council recently appointed Mr. E. Wightman Bell, chemist and druggist, Spalding, as their district agricultural analyst under the Fertilisers and Feeding-stuffs Act, 1893. The proposal was sent to the Board of Agriculture for confirmation, and the Board have declined to agree to the appointment. The Council are very indignant at the action of the Board of Agriculture, and one of the members urged that they should show themselves men, and not be beaten by red tape. They unanimously reappointed Mr. Bell.

#### The North of England School of Chemistry and Pharmacy.

The students attending this school held their fourth annual "smoker" in the Collingwood Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on October 21. There were close on a hundred present. Mr. G. F. Merson, F.C.S. (Principal), occupied the chair, and



in response to the toast of "Success to the School," intimated that it was his intention at the end of the present year to give up the school and enter the wholesale-manufacturing trade. He introduced Mr. F. R. Dudderidge, Ph.C., at present senior assistant in the school, as his successor, whose health was promptly drunk with cheers. A number of songs were contributed, and a limelight-lantern exhibition, illustrative of a trip to Norway, was exhibited. The slides were the work of Mr. W. J. Clarke, Stockton-on-Tees, who also manipulated the lantern, the descriptive matter being given by Mr. R. Little, Gateshead. Snapshots of 36 York Place, Edinburgh, and examination incidents, caught on immensely.

#### The Ginger-beer Bottle for Carbolic Acid.

Dr. G. D. Thomas held an inquest at St. Pancras on Tuesday respecting the death of Elizabeth Smith, aged 72, the wife of a jeweller, of 30 Harrison Street, Gray's Inn Road. The deceased was in the habit of taking camphor-water. This was in a bottle placed on the sideboard in her room beside a ginger-beer bottle containing crude carbolic acid, obtained for cleansing-purposes. The latter bore no label. Mrs. Smith on Friday mistook the ginger-beer bottle for her camphor-water bottle, with the result that she died at the Royal Free Hospital soon afterwards. The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure, the Coroner remarking upon the folly of keeping carbolic acid in bottles bearing no label. Carbolic acid, so readily obtainable and gratuitously supplied by some local sanitary authorities for disinfecting purposes, was responsible for more deaths by suicide and misadventure than all the other poisons combined.



*Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.*

#### Personal.

Mr. W. J. Baxter, pharmaceutical chemist, Coleraine, has been elected Chairman of the Coleraine Town Commissioners.

Mr. Frederick G. Donelan, of the Queen's College, Belfast, has won the Junior Fellowship in Chemistry—value 800l.—offered by the Royal University, Dublin.

The honorary degree of M.A. has been conferred upon the University examiner in materia medica, Professor Whitla, B.A., of the Queen's College, Belfast, by the Royal University, Dublin.

Mr. Beggs, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, who some time ago started Saturday-night concerts in Dalkey for the benefit of the working men of the township, has achieved much success, the concerts being regarded by the local vintners as the most dangerous opposition yet offered to their trade.

#### New Medical Hall.

Mr. D. H. O'Sullivan, L.P.S.I., has opened a Medical Hall at New Street, Newmarket, co. Cork. Mr. O'Sullivan served his apprenticeship with Mr. Eggleston, M.P.S.I., Kanturk. He afterwards qualified in Dublin, and spent two years at O'Connor's Medical Hall, Cavan, leaving then to manage Quirke's Medical Hall, Tullamore.

#### Ayrton & Saunders's Show.

Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders have transferred their exhibition of druggists' sundries from Dublin to the George Hotel, Limerick, and on November 3 it will be moved on to the Eglinton and Winton Hotel, at Belfast.

#### Buying Morphia in Enniskillen.

An inquest was held at Enniskillen on October 22, respecting the death of a lady named Richards, wife of a jeweller in the town, who had died from morphia poisoning. The lady's

servant related at the inquest that her mistress sent her to three chemists' shops with notes for some morphia. Mr. Adamson sent her back to ask Mrs. Richards if it was the powder or the solution she required, and if it was the powder she would need to sign her name to the note. Mrs. Richards signed the note and the morphia was supplied. Mr. R. Wilson looked at the note, and asked if it was for Mrs. Richards, the jeweller's wife. She replied it was, and he wrote a note and gave it to her to give Mrs. Richards. He also returned the money. Dr. Ternan, who was the third chemist applied to, told witness he did not sell it.

#### New Pharmacies.

Mr. George M. Ryan, M.C.P.S.I., Upper Camden Street, Dublin, has opened a suburban branch Medical Hall at Dundrum.

It is stated that Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson (Limited), Dublin, are about to open a new pharmacy in county Tipperary.

Messrs. James McCaul & Co., pharmacists, Londonderry, have just carried out extensive alterations at their Medical Hall in William Street.

Mr. T. O'Sullivan, M.P.S.I., Waterford, has opened a handsomely fitted-up Medical Hall on the Quay, built to his order by Mr. T. J. Farrell. The new concern is an ornament to the city.

#### The "Mill" and a Million.

One of our Dublin pharmacists is creating a small sensation by exhibiting a realistic picture representing a fight between a medicine carboy and a skeleton, under the most approved Queensberry rules. He adds, modestly, that he would not sell a drug he knew to be stale or impure for a million cold cash, and that he compounds with as much care as if he himself were going to take the medicine.



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#### New J.P.'s.

Mr. J. Laidlaw Ewing, of Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., and Mr. Wm. Gilmour, F.R.S.E., pharmaceutical chemist, Edinburgh, were last week appointed justices of the peace for the county of the city of Edinburgh, on the recommendation of the Right Hon. Sir Andrew McDonald, Lord Lieutenant. The honour is one which has rarely been conferred upon retail chemists in Edinburgh.

#### Presentation to a Chemist.

Mr. William Allan, pharmaceutical chemist, of Dumfries, was last week presented with a solid silver rosewater bowl by the minister, Kirk-session, and trustees of St. Mary's Church, Dumfries, on his retirement from the office of session clerk, the duties of which he had discharged gratuitously during the past fourteen years. The bowl is a handsome one of solid silver, of fluted design, with two handles, and rests on an ebony stand. It is 12½ inches high, and 9 inches in diameter. It bears a suitable inscription.

#### The Ninth.

The President and Council of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association have issued invitations for an At Home to be held at the Cockburn Hotel, 141 Bath Street, on Tuesday, November 9, from 8.30 to 12 P.M.

#### Kelso Water.

The full report on the Kelso water-supply affair shows that Dr. J. C. Thresh was not called upon to analyse the water, but as an expert to weigh the value of the analysis.



made by six chemists since 1867. All these analyses showed that the Pipe Well water contains a mean of 0.37 gr. of nitric nitrogen per gallon, Mr. Dechan's return being 0.21, Dr. Aitken's 0.26, and Mr. Ivison Macadam's 0.64, which, with other discrepancies, are extraordinary, Dr. Thresh remarked; but for the reason that waters are used with safety in which the nitric nitrogen is much higher than in the Pipe Well water, and, considering the source of the water, he had "no hesitation in saying that if the water is properly protected so as to exclude surface water, &c., it is well adapted for all domestic purposes, and can be used for such with perfect safety." Dr. Thresh mentioned that a parliamentary committee had recently sanctioned the use of a gravel water for St. Neot's, Herts, which contained 1.1 gr. of nitric nitrogen per gallon.

#### Glasgow Exhibition.

The International Exhibition which is proposed to be held in Glasgow in 1901 is in a hopeful way, the guarantee being reported to have been fully subscribed.

#### A Distinguished Foreigner.

Dr. Kruger, a nephew of Oom Paul, has recently been appointed one of the resident staff of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, which position is bestowed annually upon about two dozen of the most distinguished medical graduates of the University.

#### Edinburgh District Chemists' Golf Club.

The fifth and final round of the hole-and-hole tournament, which began in May, was played over the Braids course last week, the finalists being Messrs. D. N. Wyllie and Jas. Stott. Mr. Wyllie, receiving two holes, finished three up and two to go.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**THE STATUE TO LAVOISIER.**—At the last meeting of the Paris Municipal Council on the proposal of M. Levraud, a subvention of 3,000f. (120*l.*) was voted towards the statue of Lavoisier it is proposed to erect in Paris.

**WHAT WAS THE MAGNESIA?**—M. Leroux, insurance-agent and municipal councillor at Cany, purchased, at the beginning of the week, from a local pharmacien, a supply of magnesia, prescribed by his doctor. After taking the first dose, M. Leroux was seized with violent diarrhoea, which increased after a second dose; and, finally, he succumbed, in spite of medical aid. The burial-certificate has been refused, and the police have taken the matter in hand.

**A PHARMACIEN EXPLORER.**—M. Raoul, a navy pharmacist of the first class, has just returned from a scientific mission to the far east. The object of his voyage, made on behalf of the French Government, was to endeavour to find new plants likely to be of use in commerce and industry. The results of his mission are said to be of considerable importance both from a commercial and scientific point of view. He penetrated into the interior of the Island of Sumatra, and has written with some enthusiasm on the richness of the land. According to him gold, petroleum, resin, india-rubber, gutta percha, &c., are to be found there in plenty, but all can not be utilised because the natives are apathetic, and will not work. He is said to have brought back rare plants, diverse in variety, which it is hoped to cultivate in the French colonies, and some are thought to be quite new. This information is semi-official, but I give it under all reserve, hoping to have an opportunity of seeing M. Raoul personally in the course of a few days. But his task has not been an easy one, and towards the end he was taken seriously ill, and had to be carried for thirteen days through the forest and brush-wood towards the coast. Some of his assistants and carriers were bitten by serpents, but they appear to have been satisfactorily treated by injections of Dr. Calmette's serum. That gentleman is director of the bacteriological institute of the island.

"**CUTTING THE CUTTERS**" seems to be a title merited by one of the large Paris day-and-night pharmacies, if the new price-list just issued by the establishment can be taken as a

criterion. The proprietor claims "to have made a general reduction in prices on the tariffs of pharmacies reputed to sell at lowest prices." There is a certain ingenuity in the phrase which merits attention. Also, after stating the fact that the pharmacy remains open all night, as well as on Sundays and holidays, the statement follows that, "We have no need to dwell on the advantages resulting from a night service as well organised as that of the day. It suffices to say that at all hours a staff will be found able to scrupulously make up prescriptions or supply the least necessary object without an increase in price. All of which are conditions it is impossible to expect of a man who is troubled in his sleep." This strikes one as offering the Parisian public a good deal more than it wants. But it is another rung up the ladder of competition, and there is such a trans-Atlantic twang about it that it is not surprising to learn that the proprietor claims to have an American diploma, in addition to the necessary French one. Orders are invited by telephone, telegraph, or letter, and rapid delivery is promised, carts going round daily to all quarters of Paris. Provincial trade is also courted. "The great difference between our prices and those of provincial pharmacies enables us, in spite of the cost of the carriage and packing, to supply persons living out of Paris at a rate of prices hitherto unknown to them."

**THE FRENCH INSTITUTE** held last Monday the annual meeting of its five sections with which it traditionally inaugurates the autumn session. M. Albert Sorel presided. M. Henri Moissan, the well-known French chemist who represented the Paris University at the recent fêtes of the Princetown University, told, in humorous style, the history of the Chicago University. "Once upon a time," he said, "at the University of Yale, near New Haven, there was a professor of Hebrew, named Harper. This man, who had travelled a good deal, was well acquainted with the educational establishments of his country, had the pretension of founding the largest university in the United States." After explaining that Mr. Harper had very fixed views in matters of science, M. Moissan went on to describe in fairy-tale form the carrying out of the idea of the Chicago University. He spoke of "the good fairy with the barbarous name of Rockefeller," who came forward with a handsome sum, then a Mr. Marshall Field offered ground worth 25,000*l.* A Mr. Kent expressed his willingness to bear the expense of the chemical laboratories, and in less than thirty days success was assured. This was in May 1889. Enthusiasm amongst the inhabitants of Chicago followed, and by the end of 1895 Mr. Rockefeller had promised more than a million and a half sterling, and the people of the city a million sterling. "There was no waiting for architects or builders," M. Moissan said, "they wanted to teach in Chicago." If Mr. Harper wished to secure, say, a professor of chemistry, he singled out his man. If the latter did not come readily, the emoluments offered were doubled or tripled, "and such good sentiments," M. Moissan added, "generally had their effect." The Chicago professor had to create his laboratory, and then commence his lectures. The chemists took a whole floor in a hotel. Doubtless the more or less nauseous odours of the chemical preparations brought down the maledictions of the proprietor, but what of that? The university was founded, the students came, money flowed in, and the building went on." M. Moissan dwelt at considerable length on the subject, and was evidently much impressed by the marvellous energy and enterprise he had seen in the United States. He spoke of the students who, when not having sufficient money, devote their spare time to lamp-lighting, house-painting, &c., to increase their revenues. But the moral he drew was that France should show more initiative. In concluding, he said, "In the present day we have the indispensable, which are laboratories and liberty for increasing scientific research. Let private initiative come to the aid of our universities, and rich in traditions of a long past, and rich in the habit of work, their social rôle will increase."

**THE ELECTRIC PHOSPHORUS-PROCESS.**—The latest addition to the rapidly-growing colony of factories and chemical-works in the vicinity of the power canal and tunnel at Echota, near Niagara Falls, is the works for the manufacture of phosphorus by the Allbright process.



## Colonial and Foreign News.

**THE LADY-PHARMACIST IN SWEDEN.**—There are now six lady-pharmacists in Sweden. Four of these have only just been added to the profession, all of them having passed their examination "with distinction." The first lady-pharmacist in Sweden was a Fröken Lett, the daughter of an apotheker at Karlshamm.

**STRYCHNINE-SWEETS.**—The next time that Mr. E. Brooks, cabinet-maker, of Grahamstown, S. Africa, purchases strychnine and sweets at the same time, he will probably put one article in his left trousers-pocket, and the other in the right. He did not do so on the last occasion, and narrowly escaped celebrating his funeral in consequence. Returning homeward from his toil he purchased a box of sweets for private consumption. He also bought a dose of strychnine, wherewith to regale a troublesome cat, mixed up his purchases in his pocket, and sucked the sweets as he passed along. The reporter seems surprised that Mr. Brooks began to feel exceedingly ill, and had to be conveyed to Mr. Bell's pharmacy, where an antidote was given him.

**QUEENSLAND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.—ALLEGED FRAUD IN OBTAINING EXHIBITION AWARDS.**—On September 2, Jules Joubert, manager of the Queensland International Exhibition, with Herbert Saunders Hondt and Louis E. Porel, were brought before the Magistrates in Brisbane charged with conspiring to obtain by fraud from the International Exhibition Company (Limited)—who are running the exhibition—a certificate of merit. The case was only opened by the Crown, and the details were not made public; but substantial bail was applied for, it being alleged that two of the defendants had taken their passage to leave the country. Joubert, it is said, has conducted forty-nine exhibitions in different parts of the world. Fuller details will be available by next mail.

**THE CEYLON BOTANIC GARDENS: EXTENDED PROPAGANDA.**—The Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Ceylon has decided to follow the example of many of his colleagues in other parts of the world, and to publish periodical reports and circulars on the work carried on at the gardens. The circulars will at first appear at irregular intervals, probably every six or eight weeks. Each issue will deal with one subject only, and that in as clear and simple a way as possible. Sinhalese and Tamil editions will be issued when required. The publication of these circulars forms part of a general scheme for promoting the usefulness of this department, which will further include occasional lectures by the staff of the department upon important subjects of agricultural interest, such as diseases of plants, new cultivations, &c.; also occasional practical demonstrations at the various gardens. Tours for the study of the botany and agriculture of the various districts of the island will also be regularly made by the staff.

**LOVE, CHARMS, AND GOLD.**—He was a Zulu youth named Zwide, and she a maiden of his tribe called (in a police-court report, we regret to say) Miss Nonkabi Mabaso. The lady scorned Mr. Zwide's attentions, whereupon the swain went to the Johannesburg mines to earn (we again quote from the report) "the wherewithal for her purchase." Still Nonkabi continued to snap her pretty black fingers at the Boy. Then the Boy had recourse to one Njobonde, described as "sole proprietor of *Umoti wo Moya*—the Charm of the Wind," with whom he entered into negotiations for the purchase of a dose of that famous love-philtre. But Law 19 of 1891, enacted by the callous white man, makes it a misdemeanour to sell love-philtres to natives in the colony of Natal, and that is how the idyll was nipped in the bud. When the despondent Zwide approached Njobonde, the Sole Proprietor addressed him as follows:—"Charm is dispensed to kings and men only—not to boys. I am the possessor of the charm of the wind, but cannot give thereof to you, who are but a boy, and handle the money which belongs to your father." But that was only an introductory flourish, for the Proprietor immediately added that he couldn't trouble to sell less than 6*l.* worth of the charm, or to deal with customers who hadn't a kraal full of cattle. Poor Zwide confessed himself the possessor of only one sovereign, but when the haughty proprietor turned

his back upon him "6*l.* was at once forthcoming from the intending purchaser, and the equivalent in love-medicine was handed over" (the Reporter's style is fatal to idylls). The philtre was nasty to take. It consisted chiefly of oat-hay, with a mixture of native roots and barks. It looked like bad tobacco, but Zwide chewed it manfully night after night to attract his beloved. He once saw a vision of her and tried to utter her name, but his mouth was full of the charm, and by the time he had removed the quid the vision was gone. He tried again, but to no purpose, and finally he "laid an information" against Njobonde and tried to recover his 6*l.* by law. The case was not concluded when the last mail left.

## The Indian Famine and Artificial Foods.

**THE Indian Famine Charitable Relief Committee** have just issued a preliminary report. The Mansion House Fund, to which many home firms in the drug-trade handsomely subscribed, was closed at the end of September with 550,000*l.* Britain's contribution towards the alleviation of the distress in Southern India in 1877 was 700,000*l.* To the amount mentioned must be added large sums given by mercantile and business houses and private individuals in India, and these contributions are merely augmentative to the enormous expenditure by the Government of India, amounting to millions sterling, that will have to be reckoned in the cost of the famine.

The Executive Committee, which is practically the Government of India, are not stinted in their grateful appreciation of the value of several of the donations in kind which they specify. They give perhaps the highest commendation to Mellin's Food, of which 100 large cases were received, valued at 350*l.*, for the use of the sick and emaciated in orphanages and famine hospitals. This offer of the Mellin's Food Company for India gave rise to a somewhat curious incident. The Central Committee, acting on the advice of one of their number, a Hindú gentleman, sensitively suspicious, doubtless, of "greased cartridges," at first declined it, feeling doubtful whether ignorant people might not look upon the food "as a surreptitious attempt to injure their caste." An incisive paragraph, evidently pharmaceutically inspired, showing that the food was not only not prejudicial to caste but "untouched by hand," promptly appeared in the editorial column of the leading metropolitan newspaper, and was followed in a day or two by the announcement of the reversal of the committee's decision and their grateful acceptance of the food, with the result that "from all parts of India reports have been received of the value of the food to the weakly and ill. . . ." "Where Mellin's Food has been used the change after a few weeks in the appearance of the children using it is said to have been marvellous. From walking skeletons they became again the plump and healthy children they once were."

"In one place emaciated children were found being restored to life with the aid of Bovril, which theoretically is absolutely inadmissible to a Hindú, but being looked upon as 'English medicine' was taken freely, without any objection from Hindú gentlemen, even although its constituents were known." Among other comforts special mention is made of Triticine Food, "which is also largely indented for and reported on in glowing terms." Another gift was fourteen cases of Meaby's Biscuits, which acquired more than a local reputation at relief-stations as a kind of *vilyati roti* (English bread), a meal of which was "sufficient sustenance for three days."

Greatly appreciated also were 100 cases of Swiss Milk from the First Swiss Milk Alpine Exporting Company. One conspicuous feature of many of the relief works was the suspended cradles full of babies, all of whom were provided with wholesome milk while their mothers were at work.

It is impossible to estimate the magnitude of the good that has been done. Five millions have been relieved, or in measure restored to their former position as agriculturists, out of a total population of 130 millions (one-third of the people of India) in the affected provinces, covering 581,176 square miles—an area as large as France, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, and Italy together, and the actual mortality has been wondrously small.



## The Winter Session.

### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

THE sessional opening of the Society's schools was celebrated on Monday evening at the Society's House, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, by an address delivered by Sir Charles Cameron, the head of the Health Department of the Dublin Corporation. On the same occasion the silver medal awarded to Mr. George Alfred Scott for the best answers of the year at the examinations was to have been presented to that gentleman, but he was unfortunately unable to attend to receive it in person.

The President (Mr. Downes) was in the chair, and amongst those present were the Vice-President (Mr. Beggs), Sir George Duffey, President of the College of Physicians (Ireland), and Lord Lieutenant's visitor of the examinations, Sir William Thomson, President of the College of Surgeons (Ireland), Sir Robert W. Jackson, C.B., most of the Dublin members of the Council, and a number of ladies.

The REGISTRAR (Mr. Arthur Ferrall) read letters of apology for inability to attend from the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. W. Kenny, M.P., Mr. William Mold, M.P., Mr. Carew, M.P., and Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P.

#### THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS FIRST.

THE PRESIDENT said: Our schools have been at work since the first of the month, but we have met to-night to encourage our students, to throw some light on their path, to indicate from the experience of our past examinations where and why failures occur, and to give a stimulus to honest effort. This Society was constituted in 1875 to supply the public with persons qualified to "keep open shop" for compounding medical prescriptions, but the conservation of pharmacy did not begin then. Pharmacy has been conserved, as far as Ireland is concerned, since 1791, and the Apothecaries Act, so far as the conservation of pharmacy is concerned, has been in continuous operation. We were only admitted by an Act of necessity to meet the requirements of the public and the medical profession in the matter of compounding prescriptions; but it is, and has been since 1791, by an Act of our Irish Parliament, illegal for any person to keep open shop for this purpose without the licence of the Apothecaries' Hall, and since 1875 the alternative one of this Society. We therefore appeal to our seniors, if they are licensing for this purpose, to show us an example of care, and not to place certificates of qualification to keep open shop in the hands of gentlemen who have had neither the training nor the experience which is necessary for this purpose. Referring to the examinations which they were required to provide, the President said that at the commencement of their work they found the candidates deficient in many things, and in order to improve matters they were required to take out a course of practical chemistry, and, later, courses of lectures in botany and materia medica were required. But there were no places where these lectures could be had while pursuing the "practice" also required. The evening medical schools were closed; that magnificent school called the College of Science was closed just at the time it would be most useful. The days of Sir Robt. Kane and Professor Galloway were past. The Society therefore first established a chemical school, under the able guidance of Professor Tichborne and Mr. Kelly, and subsequently the botany lectures and materia-medica lectures which are ably delivered by Dr. Ninian Falkiner and his assistant. In the North students have the benefit of two technical schools in Belfast, while those in the West have to rely on the Queen's College, Galway, and in the South on the Queen's College, Cork. Our schools (the President continued) are not provided for in the Act, but by the powers with which we are invested of making regulations we have added them to our responsibilities. As to our examinations, no examiner can hold his position for more than five years. You can easily guess that, after five years' acquaintance with an examiner he is read like a book, and all his methods and specimens are known. But no candidate who properly prepares his subject need be disconcerted by the change of examiner. Our examinations are visited and reported on by the visitor

appointed by the Privy Council, who we are glad to see amongst us, and congratulate on his dual Jubilee honours. No more competent gentleman could be found for the post, and we appreciate his reports very highly. The system of the examinations was also explained. All our subjects have both a maximum and minimum value fixed; but not only must the minimum pass-marks in each subject be obtained, but a minimum in the gross total must also be obtained, which is 13 per cent. over the totals of the minimum in each subject, so that no one can pass on minimum marks only: he must be good in some subject or above the minimum in all. Referring to the medals established this year, the President said the Council had founded them to encourage candidates to do more than barely pull through. They decided to award a gold and a silver medal to the candidates obtaining the highest marks in the year's examinations, provided they reached for the gold medal 240, or 80 per cent. of the maximum marks, the minimum in each subject to be 65; and for the silver 230, or 77 per cent., the minimum in each subject being 60. This year the silver medal was awarded to Mr. George Alfred Scott, who was only 3 marks short of winning the gold medal. As another record for Jubilee year, we have at our last examination registered our first lady pharmaceutical chemist, after a most creditable examination. Her total marks in each subject were high, and her grand total excellent (21 over the pass-mark). To the students who have passed their Preliminary, and are preparing for their Final, the President addressed some words of advice, urging them to keep up the knowledge they have acquired. And of those who have obtained the Licence he would ask, What are you going to do with your acquired knowledge? If you do not use it you will lose it. Some, unfortunately, think that the science side of our examinations is useless stuff only put there to block the way. I believe that before long every pharmacy will have its research laboratory, and no pharmacy will be complete without one; and that you will not be satisfied to buy on the vouching of the wholesale trader. Within a comparatively short time we have had painful evidence that wholesale houses of the first rank are not infallible. This teaches us very emphatically that the only guarantee we can have, or can give the public, is our personal examination of everything which passes through our hands. Are you fit to undertake it? The authors of the Act of 1875 had the wisdom to reimpose a qualification by examination for compounding. This, I claim, is the contract of the nation; we did not make it. It was the Parliamentary Act before we existed as a society. Will they play the knave, and tell us they knew they had something up their sleeve that would spoil the bargain for us? With our loudest voice we call on the nation and Parliament to fulfil its part of the contract; we have done and are doing ours, yet they stand by and see these rights filched from us under the besmirched cloak of the "Companies Acts." We are authorised and required to prosecute for the illegal compounding of prescriptions and for the illegal sale of poisons; and yet when we do so we are regarded as trade unionists, as interlopers in the district where we prosecute, and after we have won our case with difficulty, and, with odium, the convicted writes "Limited" after his name with as much ease as he would "Esquire," and metaphorically extends his fingers in front of his face in the direction of ours. If this continues the Act will die, and again the country will suffer from want of qualified compounders. The President then

#### INTRODUCED SIR CHARLES CAMERON.

Sir CHARLES remarked that he felt highly complimented at having been asked to address them. It was, he thought, Seneca who said that the unprepared orations of Severus Cassius were always better than those which he had prepared. Severus Cassius was dead and gone long ago, and it was better to be a live ass than a dead lion; but he (Sir C. Cameron) feared that he possessed none of his attributes, and the difficulty of keeping abreast of his own works had prevented him from coming forward with a prepared address on that occasion. First let him congratulate the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland on the remarkable success it had achieved in a comparatively short period of time. Although but a few years in existence it had attained a very successful position. The establishments kept by its members were as well equipped and as well manned as any similar



ones in any cities of her Majesty's dominions. In the drugs they selected and the prescriptions they compounded he ventured to say that the only question considered was that of quality, and that the element of price never entered in the slightest degree into consideration. Therefore, the public of Dublin might rest fully assured that the prescriptions entrusted to the pharmaceutical chemists of that city would be conscientiously and carefully compounded. This was a matter of great importance, for a mistake might cost a life. In former days, perhaps, lives were very often lost in that way, but the days when such accidents occurred in Dublin were happily long gone past. The President had referred to the fact that pharmacy had been carried on in Ireland since the institution of the Apothecaries' Hall in 1791. Therefore, the pharmaceutical body could hardly be looked on as a body of non-professional men, nor could it be said that they had succeeded the Apothecaries' Hall, because that institution was still in existence. But they might fairly claim that, as far as their profession was concerned, they were doing exactly the same work—only he was sure that they were doing it in a much better manner—that the apothecaries did hundreds of years ago in Dublin. (Applause.) It was worthy of note that the earliest incorporation of any class of persons having anything to do with the healing art took place, not in London, but in Dublin. The earliest incorporation of surgeons and apothecaries took place about 450 years ago in Dublin, or about sixteen years before the incorporation of the Society of Barber Surgeons. The original charter of Henry IV. had vanished. Perhaps it was given up by the Barber Surgeons' Company on receiving a new charter from Queen Elizabeth. But the older charter was fully recited in that which was granted by Queen Elizabeth to the surgeons, barbers, and apothecaries of Dublin. This charter was well worth looking at. It was in Trinity College, Dublin, and was beautifully illuminated. The charter fell into abeyance in the time of James II., and another one was issued which showed that at that time—and perhaps long before—the apothecaries were anxious to form one of the four great divisions into which, in the progress of time, it had become necessary to divide the ancient cure-guild of barber surgeons. Anyone who knew anything of the peculiar constitution of the cure-guilds of the Middle Ages was aware that one of their objects was political, and the right to vote for members of Parliament in the city of Dublin was only possessed in the last century by members of those guilds. In process of time the only way in which persons not connected with handicrafts could become freemen of the city was by becoming nominal members of those guilds. But before the time of James II. apothecaries had become so numerous in Dublin that they formed themselves into a kind of sub-company. There were four companies associated together as one political body under the title of Barber Surgeons. The most numerous of these appeared to be the surgeons; and then came the apothecaries. He had satisfied himself that the functions of apothecaries in those days were exactly the same as those which the members of the Pharmaceutical Society performed at the present day. They were thorough pharmacists. They did not practise medicine. Strict rules of the societies prevented the surgeons from practising barbering, the barbers from practising the apothecary's art, and the apothecaries from infringing on the surgeons. The apothecaries were what they were then, and had remained since, on the Continent, pharmaceutical chemists, and they never practised medicine. But about that time the apothecaries began to sprout and to practise surgery and medicine. A distinguished apothecary and great Irish patriot of his day, Dr. Lucas, whose statue adorns the Dublin City Hall, strongly animadverted on the conduct of the apothecaries of his time in infringing on the domain of the physicians. In England the apothecaries had always been to a certain extent medical practitioners; and during nearly the whole of the present century they had been so far ordinary physicians that they did not—at least during the last fifty years—make up prescriptions for other practitioners. In Ireland, on the contrary, the compounding of medicines was carried on exclusively by the apothecaries until the institution of the Pharmaceutical Society. Now the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland had recently become an undoubted corporation of practitioners. Their diplomas—as well as those of the

Apothecaries' Company of London—were accepted by the army and navy and by the Local Government Boards as equivalent to the diplomas of the colleges of physicians and the degrees in medicine granted by the Universities. And the Apothecaries' Hall were now not merely manufacturers of physicians, but also of surgeons and gynaecologists, and perhaps after a while they would cease to make up prescriptions, except for themselves. Then they would be completely out of the way of the pharmacists. He would pay a tribute of admiration to the noble contributions which had been made to pure chemical science by apothecaries.

#### THE SPEAKER INSTANCED SCHEELÉ,

and sketched his scientific work at some length. Klaproth, the father of analytical chemistry, a German who flourished in the last century, was an apothecary; and so also was the French chemist, Vauquelin, one of the greatest chemists of the last century, and the discoverer of chromium. The celebrated Proust, who almost anticipated Dalton's discovery of the atomic laws, was a pharmacist. He propounded the theory that all atoms had weights which were multiples of that of hydrogen, and he contributed some of the most brilliant papers that were read in the Academy of France. During the long and dreary period, aptly called the dark ages, and for many centuries after it had passed away, it was only in the shops and stores of pharmaceutical chemists that any real chemistry was carried on, and many of the most valuable discoveries in chemistry were made in those drug-stores. Glauber, who was the first to differentiate the salt which bore his name from Epsom salts, was an apothecary. In our own times Dumas, almost if not the greatest of French chemists, and Liebig the greatest of modern German chemists, both began life as apothecaries. Mohr, who did for volumetric analysis what Stas, of Brussels, accomplished in determining atomic weight, were both pharmacists. Pettenkofer, the greatest of German hygienists, an eminent physiologist, kept—and perhaps still keeps—a pharmacy in Munich. Many years ago he (Sir C. Cameron) went to see him, and to his astonishment found that the scientific laboratory which he expected to find was an open pharmaceutical establishment, at the back of which he found Pettenkofer engaged in some experiments. In Ireland Higgins, who almost anticipated the atomic theory, was chemist in the Apothecaries' Hall, and the first predecessor of his (Sir C. Cameron) distinguished friend, Professor Titchborne. Another very distinguished Irishman whose discoveries were of pre-eminent value and whose name was inseparably connected with the progress of science, not only in the United Kingdom but throughout the world—the late Sir Robert Kane—served his time to an apothecary, and for some years the only diploma he possessed was that of an apothecary. There was no more interesting character in the history of pharmacy and chemistry than the late Michael Donovan, who for many years had an establishment in Clare Street, Dublin. Early in the century Donovan contributed many valuable papers to the Royal Society and the Royal Irish Academy; he published works on chemistry, galvanism, and domestic economy, and made some excellent suggestions for the improvement of pharmaceutical preparations; and they were all acquainted with the "solution" that bore his name. He started a publication called "Annals of Pharmacy," almost the first relating to pure pharmacy that appeared in the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, it was not supported sufficiently to enable it to be continued. He always maintained that the apothecary here should be the same as the apothecary on the Continent, and made an effort with some other apothecaries sixty years ago to anticipate what the Pharmaceutical Society had now accomplished by having pure pharmaceutical chemists. His project to establish a college of pharmacy in Ireland was made about 1840, but proved abortive. Later on his abstract idea became concrete by the creation of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Any man might well be proud of being a member of this institution. It was very far indeed from being a mere trade institution. The London apothecaries were for a long time associated with the grocers; but more than 200 years ago they disdained the connection and separated themselves from the grocers. And the pharmaceutical chemist, considering the education he received, might well claim to be regarded as a professional



man. He was glad to find that they had admitted a lady to be a licentiate of the Society. He himself was a woman's righter. (Applause.) He found that 450 years ago the Irish gallantly admitted women to the guild of barber surgeons—(applause)—whilst he had not found that the same liberality was shown in either England or Scotland. That liberality had been imitated in modern times by the Irish College of Physicians, who were the first, he believed, to admit women to their examinations; and the Irish College of Surgeons was the first to admit women not only to their examinations, but also to their examinations and fellowships. Some time ago when a society journal called the *Social Review* was projected, a lady called on him and asked him to write an article for its opening number. Of course he could not refuse a lady anything; and accordingly the article which he wrote was on the employments that were peculiarly suitable for women, and one which he most strongly insisted on, because of the quick eye and neat touch of women, was that of the pharmaceutical chemist. He might close the list of pharmacists by whom contributions to science had been made in Dublin by naming his distinguished friend Dr. Tichborne. (Applause.) Readers of the pharmaceutical journals were familiar with his name. He had contributed some most valuable papers, and introduced some very novel and elegant preparations. With regard to those who had been admitted licentiates of the Society at the recent examinations, the President had left him nothing to say, but he would remind them that they should continue to be students to the end of their days. A caustic French writer had said that drugs amused the patient whilst Nature made the cure. He totally disagreed with that. Medicines were of the utmost value; and drugs, which in the last century were so nauseous that taking them could not have amused anybody, were now so divested of their repulsiveness that it was almost a pleasure to take them. Sir Charles concluded by exhorting young pharmacists to bear in mind the importance of their profession, and to strive to emulate the great men whose names he had mentioned. (Applause.)

Professor TICHBORNE, in moving a vote of thanks to Sir Charles Cameron for his eloquent address, claimed that the Pharmaceutical Society had preceded the College of Physicians in admitting ladies to their examinations. He had himself moved this at the second meeting of the original Council. A member present said he would cut off his right hand first; but Sir Dominic Corrigan took up the idea, and backed him up, and the proposal was carried at a subsequent meeting. No ladies, however, had sought the qualification until the present year.

Mr. WELLS, in seconding the motion, said Sir Charles Cameron began life as a pharmacist, and he did not forget the pharmacists. The pharmacists now claimed a monopoly of pharmacy. They did not trench on either the physicians or the surgeons. They served both faithfully, and, now that the members of the Apothecaries' Hall had become full-fledged medical men, the pharmacists hoped that they would be satisfied with that, and leave them their share of the work to do. (Applause.)

Mr. ROBINSON also spoke in support of the vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation.

#### THE PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENT.

[Composed and sung by Mr. Cooke at the first smoker of the season of the Liverpool Pharmaceutical Students' Society, held at the Kardomah Café, Liverpool, on October 21.]

When the troubles and the trials  
Of apprenticeship are past,  
And we change the pots and phials  
For the microscope at last,

Then to Attfield, Thorpe, and Muter, and the Sandon Terrace  
tutor,

We give our whole attention till we get the Minor passed.

*Chorus.*

With mortar and pestle ringing,  
And decoctions gaily singing,  
While volumetric work  
And estimation of a bark  
Variety to life are bringing,

Always lively, always jolly, no such thing as melancholy  
To the pharmaceutical student.

Now when we've got the Minor o'er,  
And boast our A.P.S.,  
Then back we go to business  
Quite certain of success,

For the problems that we're sure to meet are soon put right  
at Ashton Street;  
There's no such word as beaten when such comrades we  
possess.

*Chorus.*

Old age has slight effect upon  
The champion of the pill;  
He plies his avocation  
With a fervour and a will.

Of work he's never tired: even when he lives retired  
This lively old enthusiast remains a student still.

*Chorus.*

When those who of the Minor say  
We'll get through when we please,  
Find out that ere the awful day  
They've raised the Minor fees,

They'll be sorry then that they belong to those who idly jog  
along:

A ten-pound note seems cruel when one wants to take his ease.  
*Chorus.*

#### STUDY DURING APPRENTICESHIP.

UNDER this title Mr. E. M. Holmes, F.L.S., gave an address to the students connected with the Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse Chemists' Association at Plymouth on October 20, at the same time that he awarded the prizes for herbaria. Mr. J. Cocks, President of the Association, was in the chair.

Mr. HOLMES commenced by remarking on the fact that knowledge is increasing year by year, while the time that can be devoted to study in schools of pharmacy cannot at present be extended. Consequently either more knowledge must be acquired in less time or the candidate for examination will be compelled to extend the time by repeated failures. It therefore behoves young men to economise their time by acquiring an elementary knowledge of theoretical and practical chemistry, of morphological and practical botany, and of mathematics during their apprenticeship. Such knowledge is obtainable in all large towns. If it is neglected the student, when he first attends lectures, will have no correct idea of the terms of the sciences to be studied. Moreover, when he has to work all day with his brains, and, day after day, the continuous study will tend to injure rather than strengthen his mental muscles. But by gradual study during apprenticeship the mental powers become strengthened and study becomes a pleasant exercise rather than a painful and wearisome labour. Besides the scientific side of his education, the future pharmacist, to succeed in the face of the keen competition of the present day, must not neglect the business side. This is for the apprentice to gain and his employer to impart during apprenticeship, and judging from results it is too often neglected by both. The Pharmaceutical Society has of late years found it necessary to teach practical dispensing, but business habits, such as punctuality, promptitude, orderly management and despatch of work, and careful calculations of profits, cannot be taught in a pharmaceutical school, neither can commercial morality and upright dealing and dependableness; yet these have a great deal to do with success. A man in business whose promise is not certain to be kept, or whose word is known to be unreliable, soon finds that scientific knowledge without these will not fill his pockets. Even assistants will find that business habits are preferred to scientific knowledge without them. Particular attention should be paid to the requirements of the Pharmacopœia with regard to drugs and preparations to be used in medicine; but there is, besides, such a thing as a wholesale drug-list, and drugs of various qualities are met with in commerce which, though not intended for use in prescriptions, are required by the public, and on which legitimate profit is to be made. Take, for instance, caraways. The fine quality, or English, are for medicinal use; the Dutch, or second quality, are suitable for cakes, biscuits, comfits, &c., and are the kind usually supplied by grocers, for the simple reasons that the druggist has let them slip



out of his hands; while a third variety, too inferior for household use, answers for veterinary medicine. What would be thought of a grocer who said he only kept the best quality of tea and coffee or sugar, and was not prepared to meet the wants of the public by keeping cheaper qualities. Or take benzoin. The maker of varnishes would not pay the price of Siam benzoin for the quality that suits his purpose, nor would the maker of pastilles or incense, while the maker of benzoic acid finds that the Palembang variety answers his purpose best. Likewise the Sheffield cutler would find the resin used in medicine useless to him for knife-handles. Unfortunately, the description of many drugs in the *Pharmacopœia* is so loosely framed that an unscrupulous manufacturer can label inferior preparations B.P., and the conscientious pharmacist who is unacquainted with the low grades of drugs—as, for instance, senna and liquorice-root—cannot satisfactorily explain to his customers why he cannot compete in price with his less scrupulous neighbour. I trust, said Mr. Holmes, my meaning will not be misunderstood. I hold that the *Pharmacopœia* should strictly limit the drugs to be used in medicine to the best quality obtainable, so as to ensure as far as possible certainty and uniformity of action, and that the descriptions should be so limited and precise as to exclude all inferior qualities, but that, nevertheless, the pharmacist should be prepared to meet the wants of his customers for inferior qualities when they insist upon having them after the difference is explained.

Trade differs much in different localities. In the Midland counties herbs are sold in large quantities; in the Northern manufacturing towns borax and sal ammoniac, and other chemicals used as fluxes, &c., or for soldering-purposes, are sold by pounds or hundredweights, instead of by the ounce. In cider districts salicylic acid is sold in large quantities; in grazing districts formaldehyde, &c.; and in agricultural districts sulphate of copper, and so on. The pharmacist should keep his eyes open to the requirements of the neighbourhood in which he lives, and let no sale of drugs or chemicals be lost to him which his scientific knowledge of chemistry and botany brings within his business scope. With increasing knowledge come demands for new products. In every direction there are new openings for men possessing botanical and chemical knowledge. The pharmacist who can analyse urine, water, air, beer and milk, manure, soils, &c., well will find that the new science of sanitation will afford him remunerative employment. If he is, as he should be, a microscopist, he can find work in examining for medical men sputa of consumptive patients, linseed or other food cakes for agricultural purposes, and if he has a fair knowledge of plants he may obtain remuneration for the examination of agricultural seeds that will germinate. In fact, the education of a pharmacist fits him for many varieties of work by which he may add to his income. There are many preparations which the pharmacist has allowed to slip out of his hands, such as weed-killers, plant-foods, dressings to prevent fungoid diseases or insect attacks on plants, but which bear a fair amount of profit from chemical knowledge required in making them. These certainly should come within his business scope. Too often these things fall into the hands of good business men who have comparatively little knowledge of chemistry. Finally, besides a knowledge of science and a knowledge of business methods something else is necessary to success; this I may call the moral sense. By this I mean that consideration for the rights of others that induces you to act to others as you would they should do to you. The man who utilises his knowledge of drugs to take an unfair advantage of a customer—as, for instance, to sell him English rhubarb at the price of Chinese, or to use an inferior quality of *ipeacuanha* for *ipeacuanha*-wine—is bound, sooner or later, to be found out by the results, and his business is certain to suffer. All large dispensing-businesses have been founded on the reputation of their founders for upright dealing and for care and accuracy—in other words, for their dependableness. Examination can neither guarantee this nor business capacity: all that it can do is to afford a guarantee that the man whom it has passed knows how to dispense medicine properly, if he will.

#### THE PRIZES AWARDED.

Mr. Holmes then presented the prizes to the successful students in the recent botany examination:—1, W. Hellyer (Tilden's "Chemical Philosophy," and Perkin and Kipping's

"Organic Chemistry"); 2, J. Reynolds (Green's "Botany," No. 1; Jones's "Practical Chemistry.") These two also took the herbaria prizes. 3, A. Downing. The above were given by Mr. C. J. Park and Mr. J. Kinton Bond, B.A., B.Sc.

Mr. Shakerley was elected junior secretary, in place of Mr. J. A. Buckley, who is leaving the town shortly.

Mr. Holmes, in conclusion, advised students to work with the microscope, and not to trust too much to the wholesale house for true samples, but examine them for themselves. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Holmes terminated a most-successful meeting. The Flückiger medal was on view during the afternoon.

#### MICROSCOPIC GEMS OF THE THREE KINGDOMS OF NATURE.

THIS was the title of a paper read before the Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association on October 20, at Birmingham, by Mr. F. H. Alcock, F.I.C. The lecture was illustrated by lantern-slides, the lantern being lent and manipulated by Mr. J. Davis, pharmacist, Summer Lane. Mr. ALCOCK showed and described the low forms of animal life, such as the trichina of man and the rabbit, a section of the human liver in health and disease, the human tooth and the teeth of many other animals, and the human bone, with the bones of such animals as the albatross, the alligator, and the tapir. Then followed a description of the horn of the bison and rhinoceros, and the whalebone of the whale, and the difference between this so-called bone and true bone was pointed out. Hairs of the rat, quills of the porcupine, and feathers of the bird concluded the representation of the animal world. The vegetable world was represented by beautiful specimens of diatoms, including the *heliopelta*, or gum shield, found in Bermuda earth, *triceratium*, and *pinnularia*. Several pharmaceutical diagrams followed, including cinchona-bark, together with a beautiful series of crystals, which were greatly admired, particularly that which represented quinate of quinine. Other subjects dealt with were sulphate of quinine, morphia and hydrochloride, salicin, Epsom salts, and several platino-cyanides. Several interesting illustrations were afterwards drawn from the mineral kingdom.

#### DEMONSTRATION IN PRACTICAL MICROSCOPY.

BY MARTIN J. COLE. Given to the Chemists' Assistants' Association, London, on October 21.

In this interesting and instructive lecture Mr. Cole went completely through the processes of cutting, staining, and mounting sections of vegetable drugs, together with the finishing and labelling of slides. First he explained that the tissues must undergo a preparatory process; fresh stems must be hardened in methylated spirit for a week or more; dried tissues must be softened by soaking in water, when they swell to their natural size. If the substance to be cut is sufficiently large, sections can be taken by hand. A razor, flat on one side at least, should be used. The tissue is grasped between the left thumb and forefinger, the latter held horizontally, forming a rest for the blade of the razor; the razor is then drawn through the tissue from heel to tip, towards the operator. The tissue and razor should be wet with methylated spirit, and the cut sections transferred to a dish of dilute spirit. Substances too small for this manual operation must be in some way embedded, and cut in a microtome. The ordinary infiltrating media are paraffin and celloidin, the former being used chiefly for animal tissues. Schering's celloidin is dissolved in a mixture of equal parts of ether and alcohol until a fluid is obtained as thick as glycerine. The dehydrated specimen is first soaked in this solution diluted to half, afterwards in the full-strength solution. After thorough saturation the substance is removed and allowed to dry in the air, more celloidin solution being applied, if necessary, to make a larger mass, which after drying is placed in 50-per-cent. alcohol, and is then ready for cutting in the microtome. The lecturer said that by this method he had been able to obtain sections of flower-buds with all their external organs in their natural position.

With a hand-microtome Mr. Cole showed the method of embedding an ordinary piece of tissue, or a tissue infiltrated with celloidin, in carrot for the purpose of section-cutting. With a punch the size of the well of the microtome he cut a



piece of carrot of exact size, and having split the cylinder longitudinally and hollowed out one commissure to admit the tissue, and thus prevent too great pressure, he placed the two flat surfaces of carrot together, and pressed the compact cylinder into the microtome. From this he cut some transverse and longitudinal sections of the stem of plantain. This, to the casual onlooker seemed simple enough, but perhaps the most appreciative witness was the man who had himself essayed the task. Having placed the sections in water, Mr. Cole proceeded to mount some unstained in glycerine jelly, and some, double-stained with acid-green and carmine, in Canada balsam. The glycerine jelly he was melting in the water-bath, was made by dissolving 1 oz. of gelatine in 6 oz. of water adding 4 oz. of glycerine and a little creosote to preserve it. The sections to be mounted in glycerine jelly must be absolutely free from spirit, or air-bubbles would appear in the slide.

Taking a plain glass slide, he said the section should be put in the middle, and this was found by the simple procedure of ruling lines in pencil on a piece of white paper round the edge of the slide and drawing diagonals across the parallelogram, then placing the slide within the figure on the paper. A few drops of the melted jelly must be dropped from a pipette, and the section immersed with its centre over the junction of the diagonal lines; a clean cover-slip held by forceps is then held with one edge in the jelly and slowly lowered over the section. Excess of jelly is squeezed out by gentle pressure over the cover-glass, and the slide set aside to cool.

Turning now to the sections to be stained and mounted in balsam, he said before they would take the stains the sections must be bleached in solution of chlorinated soda. After thorough washing to remove all trace of soda they are placed in solution of acid aniline green 2 gr., distilled water 3 oz., glycerine 1 oz. for five or ten minutes. They are then washed and immersed for ten minutes in a mixture of the two following solutions:—

#### No. 1 Solution.

Borax ...	...	...	...	10 gr.
Distilled water ...	...	...	...	10 oz.
Glycerine ...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Alcohol ...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

#### No. 2 Solution.

Carmine ...	...	...	...	10 gr.
Solution of ammonia ...	...	...	...	20 min.
Distilled water ...	...	...	...	30 min.

The sections are then dehydrated in alcohol and cleared in clove oil preparatory to mounting. The Canada-balsam solution is used by first baking the balsam until it chips when cold, and dissolving the residue in benzol to an oily consistency. The sections may be mounted by the method for glycerine jelly, care being taken to drain away excess of clove oil, and this process Mr. Cole used as he wished to ring and finish the slides. He also described a better method, occupying over twelve hours, in which the section is immersed in the solution of balsam placed directly on the cover-glass and allowed to dry twelve hours. A drop of fresh balsam is then added, the glass slide warmed, and the cover-glass inverted on the slide. The cover is then pressed down with the forceps, the fresh balsam exudes, while the old balsam is softened by the heat of the slide, and on cooling holds the section hard and fast.

To finish the slides Mr. Cole removed excess of glycerine jelly from the unstained mount by scraping and washing with water, incidentally remarking that every trace of glycerine outside the cover must be removed or the cement would run; excess of balsam he removed with spirit. In placing the slide in the turntable for ringing, he said the edge of the cover-glass should be adjusted to one of the circles on the table. "The cement he used was made for bicycles. It was absolutely no use for this purpose, but was a good cement for microscopic work."

A long-haired brush should be used, and but little cement applied at first; when the first coat had dried, a second and thicker coat should be applied. The finished slide should have a label affixed at each end. On one label should be placed the source of the tissue, the direction in which the section is cut, with any particular point intended to be shown; on the other the method of preparation, staining-

fluid, mounting medium, and the date. Mr. Cole, in the course of his work, betrayed the master-hand in microscopical minutiae, and the finished slides were models of excellence. Among some slides which he exhibited there were a cross section of *Cucurbita* showing sieve-plates, a leaf with its chlorophyll granules, and a leaf of eucalyptus with oil-cells. Messrs. W. Watson & Sons lent two of their Edinburgh microscopes fitted with parachromatic objectives. Mr. Cole was cordially thanked for his demonstration.

#### BRIGHTON JUNIOR ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACY.

At the meeting held on October 20 an interesting paper was read by the PRESIDENT (Mr. C. A. Blamey) on "Alchemy," in which an historical account of the art was given. This was followed by a paper by Mr. A. S. KENT on "Sulphur." The word "brimstone," he said, came from the Teutonic "brinnstein," meaning "burning stone." The word "sulphur" is considered by many to be a hybrid composed of the Latin word "sal" (salt), and the Greek "pur," meaning "fire." He described the sources, the chemistry, and the uses of sulphur. A third paper was read by Mr. P. M. SHORT on "The Action of Diastase on Starch." This lecture was illustrated by experiments with a malt-extract which Mr. Short is selling.

#### LEICESTER CHEMISTS' SOCIAL UNION.

A PLEASANT social gathering was held at the Dover Street School, Leicester, on the evening of October 21, under the presidency of Mr. T. Howard Lloyd. The company numbered about 120. In a short opening address, the CHAIRMAN said it did not follow that because chemists were engaged in making bitter things their relationships should also be bitter. He hoped members of the trade would get much benefit from the social intercourse which it was sought to provide. The chief attraction of the meeting was a lantern-lecture on "Australia," by Mr. A. BRAY, the representative of Messrs. A. de St. Dalmas & Co. This gentleman discoursed pleasantly upon the colonies, where he has spent a good deal of his time, and referred to their geography, history, and politics. Mr. Henry Pickering was lanternist. Mr. Alonzo J. Freeland, chemist, Kibworth, contributed a violin solo, and Mr. W. Howard and Mr. Llewellyn Parsons songs, and Miss Cleaver a recitation. Mr. T. Howard Lloyd provided the refreshments. The whole of the arrangements were well carried out by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. W. Goodess.

#### NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE session was opened on October 21 with a social evening at the Copeland Arms Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent. Alderman J. Averil, J.P. (Stafford), presided, and members were present from all the surrounding towns. Mr. W. Gibson (R. Gibson & Sons, Manchester) and Mr. W. Brinson (Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool) were also in the company. The CHAIRMAN, in the course of his address, intimated that he thought the Association was numerically and financially powerful enough to establish a school of pharmacy in the district. He commented on the practice of pharmacy by limited liability companies, and urged upon chemists to join the Pharmaceutical Society so as to strengthen its legal and parliamentary influence. He thought the present system of the Minor examination should be altered so as to allow candidates to complete their work without an interval. Many promising young men, he believed, failed through the suspense and anxiety caused by the intervals of the examination. He noted that according to the Local Government report on adulteration, the percentage of adulteration was not above the average. He did not believe that chemists and druggists were guilty of adulteration; it was the people who were less responsible and less careful than they, who substituted inferior for proper stuff. The Chairman's remarks on drug-companies were endorsed by Mr. MOORE and Mr. CORNWELL. The latter said the competition of companies was a more serious thing for the public than it was for chemists themselves. On the suggestion of Mr.



CORNWELL a collection for the Benevolent Fund (amounting to 10s.) was taken in the room, and it was agreed to follow this practice at the meetings generally.

Mr. Halls during the evening subscribed 1*l.* 1*s.* to the Association. Songs were given by Messrs. Jones, Brinson, Emery, Poole, Christopher, Elmitt, Cornwell, Tiley, Allison, and Prince, Messrs. Waldron and Turner accompanying. Mr. Moore gave a reading, and Mr. Emery enhanced the brightness of the evening with solos on a Chinese violin.

#### FROM A PRESIDENT, TOO!

THIS was how the PRESIDENT of the Aberdeen Junior Chemists' Association (Mr. A. P. Wallace) wound up his inaugural address on October 22. He had been urging apprentices to join the Association, and then he burst into song as follows:—

Cumin and myrrhæ luttuce be,  
Let pleasure caryoph our gloom;  
Anisi thing it is for me  
To hōp for morphine days to come.

#### SHEFFIELD PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

THE Council of the above Society have arranged a programme for the coming session as follows:—November—Social evening and smoker; December—Paper by Mr. J. H. Bradwell on the P.A.T.A.; January—Paper by the President (Mr. G. Squire) on the "New Pharmacy Law," and a chemists' ball; February—If the new Pharmacopœia is published in January Mr. Eardley will read a paper on it; March—Paper by Mr. H. Antcliffe on "Poor-law Dispensers"; April—Papers by Mr. J. Austen and Mr. C. O. Morrison.

#### WINDSOR CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held at the residence of Mr. Wood, High Street, Windsor, on October 20, at which were present Messrs. Everett, Harmer, Rowland, Westlake, and Wood (Windsor), Mr. Dawson (Slough), Mr. Willcocks (Datchet), and Mr. Oldham (Eton). The members were entertained by Mr. Wood, and a pleasant evening was passed in discussion of local matters connected with the Association.

#### NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTS CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE winter session of this Association was opened at the Albert Hotel, Nottingham, on Wednesday evening, when an address was delivered by Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme (Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society). Mr. R. Fitzhugh, J.P. (President of the Association), was in the chair, and congratulated the Society on the fact that they had that evening an illustrious visitor with them. He complimented Mr. Newsholme on the high position he occupied, and expressed a hope that ere many years had passed they might see him elevated to the still higher position of President of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. NEWSHOLME, speaking on "Local Organisation in Pharmacy," said that, to an outsider devoting any consideration to the state of matters pharmaceutical in Nottingham, the most striking feature that presented itself was the excellence of the means adopted for the promotion of scientific and technical education and the conservation of professional and trade interests. Their local organisation, as the outcome of some thirty years' steady, persistent work, was probably as complete as it was possible to make it. The policy indicated in the address of their first President (the late Mr. J. H. Atherton) in 1868 had been consistently carried out ever since, and the thirty years' record was one of which they might well be proud. Mr. Newsholme went on to claim that no small portion of the advances recorded during the past half-century—not only in chemistry and pharmacy, but also in botany and materia medica—had been in a great measure due to the action of the Pharmaceutical Society and its members. The Society founded the first laboratory that existed in this country for the teaching of practical chemistry, its museum and library were beyond question the most complete of their kind in the world, and by every means in its power it had consistently encouraged the study of physical and natural

science, and their application to the problems of pharmacy. He also referred to the Benevolent Fund, and said that if the Council had not been opposed by an ill-advised section of the trade the Act of 1868 would have been much better than it was. The Minor examination would have only qualified assistants, and the right to carry on business would have been reserved to those who passed the Major examination. Speaking with regard to trade protection Mr. Newsholme dealt with the work the Society could do, and what could be done by local associations, and in conclusion the speaker remarked that the crying need was for a system of local organisation amongst pharmacists which should embrace the whole body. He held no special brief for the Pharmaceutical Society on this occasion, but he was firmly convinced that when any chemist properly realised the full value of combination for mutual defence and professional advancement, it would not be long before he perceived that the Society offered the simplest means of alleviating his condition. (Applause.)

Mr. SERGEANT having supported Mr. Newsholme's remarks

Mr. GASCOYNE said that while he did not altogether agree with Mr. Newsholme's estimate of the Pharmaceutical Society, he thoroughly agreed with what he had said in regard to local associations. But he argued that local associations or rather provincial chemists were out of touch with the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. Newsholme told them what the Pharmaceutical Society could not do. Mark Twain said of the ancients, what they didn't know was very voluminous. What the Pharmaceutical Society could not do was very considerable. (Laughter). But it was no satisfaction to know that the Society could not do these things. To his mind the great failing of the Pharmaceutical Society in the past had been that it had been too representative of the high-class pharmacy of the metropolis. Mr. Gascoyne expressed the opinion that it was hopeless to expect that the House of Commons would do anything to protect pharmacists, and it was useless to expect they would get any redress as regarded company pharmacy. When the famous trial took place then was the time for the Society to have done something in the interest of the trade, instead of which they allowed the bottom to be knocked out of the Act of 1868. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BOLTON emphasised the need for individual members to take a keen interest in their associations. They must not throw on the Pharmaceutical Society blame which ought rightly to be attached to the trade. Unless the Society had power at its back, it necessarily became one-sided. If individual members would keep an eye on their respective districts and would report anything illegal, the Society would certainly take the matter up. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MIDDLETON said they had perfect machinery in the Pharmaceutical Society, but they wanted the steam from the local organisations, and hoped that every chemist in Nottingham would come forward to help to supply that.

Mr. BEILBY, Mr. R. WIDDOWSON, and Mr. GILL also spoke more or less in support of the views expressed by Mr. Newsholme. This gentleman having replied, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to him.

#### NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A SMOKING-CONCERT was held in the Hotel Métropole on Wednesday evening. Mr. T. Maltby Clague presided over about fifty members and a number of their friends, including several commercial gentlemen at present "on circuit" in the district. An excellent programme of music was negotiated in first-rate style.

At a Council-meeting held earlier in the evening the following resolution was submitted by Mr. J. D. ROSE, Jarrow, and approved by the Council:—

That this Council of the Newcastle and District Chemists' Association desire to express their appreciation of the action taken by the Sanitas Company to ascertain the views of the trade with regard to their joining the P.A.T.A., and that, in the opinion of this Council, the Sanitas Company would by joining the P.A.T.A., and adding their articles to its protected list, ensure the good will and co-operation of the trade as distributors. This Council are also of the opinion that the trade cannot but adopt a hostile attitude towards proprietaries which show no profit, and that the most convenient method to secure that profit is in co-operation with the P.A.T.A.



## Legal Reports.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

#### SPT. ÆTH. NIT.

At Peterborough Police Court on October 20, Mr. John G. Sturton, chemist, Broad Street, Peterborough, was summoned in respect to some sweet nitre sold on September 27 last. The Chief Constable stated that the analyst was unable to be present on account of illness, and he asked for an adjournment for his attendance. Mr. Sturton agreed to this, and the case was adjourned for a fortnight.

#### GROUND GINGER.

In the Glasgow Sheriff Court, on October 21, a grocer, named Wighton, was charged, at the instance of the sanitary authorities of the city, with having sold to the inspector  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. of ground ginger which was found to contain 69 per cent. of spent or exhausted ginger. Mr. Tatlock, one of the city analysts, gave evidence for the prosecution, and William Robert Lang, senior assistant to the professor of chemistry in the Glasgow University, examined for the defence, said that, from his examination of Mr. Tatlock's report, he would be inclined to say that the ginger in question was of poor quality. It was quite impossible to determine whether spent ginger had been added to the ordinary ginger. Although the sample was of exceedingly poor quality, it was genuine ginger. Having commented upon the analytical evidence, Sheriff Pyfe said he could not hold in that particular case that the ginger was not of the substance and quality of ground ginger, and found the charge not proven.

#### GREGORY'S POWDER.

We reported briefly last week the prosecution at Guildford on October 16 of Mr. J. W. H. Littleboy, chemist, Woking, in respect of some Gregory's Powder sold by him. A few more particulars of the case may be added. A lad named Hampshire bought 2 oz. of the powder, for which he paid 1s. 4d. and left the shop. Subsequently the Inspector went to the shop and told the defendant he had purchased the powder for the purpose of analysis. This was an irregular mode of proceeding which should have been fatal to the case. The analysts' evidence was to the effect that carbonate of magnesia had been used in the preparation of the powder instead of calcined magnesia as ordered in the British Pharmacopœia.

Mr. Gale Crowdy, solicitor, Chertsey, who appeared for Mr. Littleboy, characterised the proceedings as being altogether uncalled for. He appeared for a very well-known chemist in Woking, who would not willingly offer any article for sale that was not according to representation. As a matter of fact, in the case under notice, instead of something being sold to the prejudice of the purchaser, there was a larger quantity of the most expensive ingredient than what was demanded. In substituting the carbonate of magnesia for the oxide, Mr. Littleboy followed the practice adopted in most of the London hospitals, where preference is given to the carbonate on account of its being more anti-acid and more readily mixing with water. There were several formulas, and no hard and fixed rule to follow one rather than another. As a matter of fact, people went to a chemist and asked for compound rhubarb powder, and the chemist supplied what he considered to be the best. In the case under notice the purchaser got more than the value if it had been made up in the constituent proportions named in the edition of the British Pharmacopœia quoted by Mr. Cliffe. If proof of his averment were needed, he could call Mr. Lancaster, a retired wholesale chemist, and he would tell the Bench that there was no hard and fast line as to what should constitute Gregory's Powder as long as they were not injurious to the purchaser, and in this case a preferable article was sold.

Dr. Wellington Lake, Medical Officer of Health for Woking and Guildford, and Deputy-Coroner, stated that he knew of a number of institutions where, in the preparation of Gregory's Powder, carbonate was used in preference to the

oxide of magnesia. If the oxide were peremptorily required in sending for it he should say B.P., thereby intimating that he wanted it according to the B.P. formula; but to depart from that formula was not necessarily detrimental to the public; in the present case he considered the constituents of the recipe as supplied by Mr. Littleboy were excellent. The result of using carbonate in place of oxide was therapeutically precisely the same. Carbonate was generally used in the preparation of Gregory's Powder, because it was more soluble in water than the oxide, and the substitution did not imply anything prejudicial, either medically or commercially, to the purchaser.

Mr. Gale Crowdy said it was outrageous to bring Mr. Littleboy to that Court, and he wondered what the Inspector could have been thinking about; but he supposed his zeal out-ran his discretion.

The Bench decided to dismiss the case.

### THE DENTISTS ACT.—A DOUBLE CHARGE.

At Lichfield Police Court on October 22, Edwin Benjamin Morgan, of Nechells, Birmingham, was charged with having obtained 7s. from a widow by falsely representing himself to be a dentist, and also under the Dentists Act with having unlawfully taken and used the name of dentist. According to the evidence the defendant rented rooms at Lichfield, where he had attended and practised as a dentist for seven or eight years. On September 24 a widow named Mrs. Gumley took her daughter to him and the latter had two teeth stopped. She paid 3s. 6d. on account. The stopping came out on the following Tuesday, and the girl swallowed it. As directed, she went to defendant again on October 1, and in consequence of what had occurred Mrs. Gumley asked if he was really Mr. Morgan, the dentist, or the assistant. He replied that he was Mr. Morgan himself, and he stopped up the two teeth and she paid him the other 3s. 6d. The stopping came out on the following Tuesday, and she took her daughter to another dentist. She went to Mr. Morgan because he was cheaper than the other dentists. Counsel for the defence submitted, with reference to the charge of obtaining money by false pretences, that there was no case, inasmuch as the defendant had never represented himself to be a dentist or dental practitioner registered under the Act, and that there was no felonious intent. The Bench took this view, and dismissed this part of the case. With respect to the second charge, counsel contended that the Act did not prohibit the practice of dentistry by other than registered practitioners, and that there must be a public usage of the title dentist or dental practitioner. The defendant was perfectly entitled to practise as an unregistered dentist, as he had done for years. Mr. Birch, one of the Magistrates, pointed out that under the amending Act not only the Council of the Dental Association, but private persons, had power to prosecute. The Bench considered this part of the case proved, and imposed a fine of 2l. 2s. and costs. They, however, consented to state a special case on the point of law for a higher court.

### COUNTY COURT CASES.

#### SUED THE RIGHT PARTNER.

WILLIAM MORLEY MARTIN, chemist, of Redruth, sued Henry Rowe at the Redruth County Court last week, to recover 28l. for photographic goods supplied. Mr. Rowe's solicitor contended that the debt was incurred by the firm of Rowe & Da Costa, and that plaintiff knew this; but after hearing the evidence Judge Granger thought plaintiff had proved his case against Rowe, and gave judgment for plaintiff for the full amount and costs.

#### HOMOCEA PINCUSHIONS.

MR. JUSTICE MATHEW, sitting for the trial of commercial causes in the Queen's Bench Division on Tuesday, had before him the case of Measures v. Homocea (Limited). The action was brought by Frank Joseph Measures, trading as the London Stamping Company (Limited), to recover 234l. 3s. 9d., for goods sold and delivered and for goods ready for delivery which the defendants had refused to accept. The case for the plaintiff was that he contracted



to supply the defendants with 100,000 souvenir felt pincushions with outside aluminium discs for the purpose of advertising the defendants' soap and embrocation. They were to be distributed among the customers of defendants about the time of the Jubilee. The goods were duly supplied, every care being taken to ensure that they were properly made. The glue that was used to attach the fibre to the metal was the best that could be obtained, and was that which experiments had shown to be the best for attaching fibre to metal. The defendants alleged that the goods were not according to contract, as the two outside metal discs did not adhere firmly to the inner material. The plaintiff had, it was stated, given a guarantee that the discs would stick properly, but this Mr. Measures emphatically denied, saying that what was said was that the greatest care would be taken with the work, and, as a matter of fact, this undertaking was carried out. It was also said that there was great delay in delivering the articles, in consequence of which the favourable time for their distribution was allowed to pass. Evidence was called on behalf of the plaintiff to show that the pincushions were properly made. For the defence, Mr. Brandreth, managing director of Homocœa (Limited), deposed that the articles were absolutely useless for the purpose of a permanent advertisement, as the metal discs did not adhere to the felt. He also gave evidence as to the delay in delivery, in consequence of which one half the order had to be cancelled. At the close of the evidence, his Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff for 200*l.* and costs.

#### MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT AND MINERAL-WATER BOTTLES.

AT Hastings Police Court, on Monday, John Martin was summoned by the Secretary of the Kent and Sussex Association of Mineral-water Manufacturers for selling a syphon of mineral water which bore the trade-mark of Messrs. Idris. Mr. E. K. Bishop, a director of Messrs. Idris & Co. (Limited), identified the bottle produced as being the property of his company. The trade-mark was the word "Idris," and defendant had no authority to use it. Cross-examined: Idris & Co. manufactured syphons, and when they sold them to other manufacturers they put on the names of the purchasers. For the defence, it was stated that the defendant purchased a lot of bottles from a man giving up business at St. Leonards, and he understood that the word "Idris" meant the manufacturers of the bottle. The Bench imposed a fine of 2*l.* and 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* costs.

### Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* HERBERT LACY, 156 Whitechapel Road, E., trading as Lacy & Co., Chemist.

THE first meeting of creditors under this failure was held on October 21 at the London Bankruptcy Court. The debtor commenced business on his own account at the above address in June, 1896. That and another business at 94 Whitechapel Road were formerly carried on by his father, who died intestate. They were subsequently continued by his mother, the debtor having a third interest in them. He managed both businesses for his mother until June of last year, when he acquired the shop at 156 Whitechapel Road in consideration of discharging the existing liabilities thereon, which he accomplished by raising 265*l.* on the lease of the premises. A private meeting of the creditors was held shortly before the failure, when a statement was presented showing liabilities 750*l.* and assets 1,100*l.*, consisting chiefly of the goodwill. No offer was then made, and the debtor was requested to file his petition and to apply for the appointment of a special manager with a view to the sale of the business as a going concern. He attributes his failures to insufficient capital, and to excess of household and personal expenses over the profits of the business. The chairman (Mr. Howell, assistant receiver) said the statement of affairs had not yet been lodged. Mr. George White, chartered accountant, Old Jewry Chambers, had been appointed special manager of the estate pending the appointment of a trustee

by the creditors. It appeared that the two largest trade creditors had given proxies in favour of the appointment of Mr. White as trustee, and their vote would carry the appointment by the requisite majority. A committee of inspection was also nominated, consisting of the following gentlemen:—Mr. Arnold Baiss (Baiss Brothers), Mr. Edward Horner (Horner & Sons), and Mr. William Bryant (Fellow & Bryant). It was further resolved that the question of the remuneration to be voted to the special manager and trustee should be referred to the committee of inspection, the security to be given by the trustee being fixed at 1,000*l.*

*Re* HENRY SARA, Falmouth, Chemist.

THE public examination of this bankrupt took place at the Truro Bankruptcy Court on October 23. In reply to questions, debtor said he had carried on business at Falmouth since 1886, when his capital was 95*l.* He resided with his father in Bar Terrace, his business establishment being in Arwenack Street. He had always been given to understand that the furniture at Bar Terrace would be his at the death of his father, but there was no legal document to that effect. It was in consequence of understanding this from his father that he included 250*l.* for the furniture in a statement of affairs which he supplied to Mr. Gadd, of the firm of Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co., Exeter, who were creditors. He discovered three years ago that his position was not satisfactory, and subsequent to that he lost between 50*l.* and 70*l.* a year. Debtor was allowed to pass his examination.

*Re* ARTHUR ANGELL, Norham Lodge, 56 Winchester Road, Shirley, Southampton, Public Analyst.

THE examination of this debtor took place at the Southampton Bankruptcy Court on October 20. The cause of failure is alleged as follows:—"I was unexpectedly saddled with the whole of the costs of taking out and defending letters-patent, which I had believed to be a joint liability with two other persons." The debtor has been adjudged bankrupt, and an order for summary administration was made by the Court. The gross liabilities are set down at 978*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, of which 451*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* is expected to rank for dividend. The Official Receiver examined the debtor at great length as to the circumstances of the composition he made with his creditors in 1890; the facts surrounding the granting of letters-patent for a boiler-coating composition; his connection with the International Sewage Purification Company; the facts connected with the bill of sale on his furniture given to Mr. Freeley for money lent; and the claim of Mr. Lamport. The Registrar said the statement of affairs showed Messrs. Lamport and Aldridge to be secured creditors, though the debtor's answers showed they were not. On the application of the Official Receiver the public examination was adjourned for a month.

### Deeds of Arrangement.

*Calvert, Joseph*, trading as J. Calvert & Co., Lurgan, chemist. Petition for arrangement, and affidavit of assets and liabilities. Dated October 23; filed October 23. Liabilities, secured or partly secured, 2,028*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*; unsecured, 3,424*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* Assets, after deducting secured claims, 684*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Ayrton & Saunders, Liverpool .. .. .	38	9	1
Boehm, Gustav, London .. .. .	10	16	1
Clarke, Charles, & Co., London .. .. .	18	2	10
Cleaver, F. S., & Co., London .. .. .	10	19	5
Collen Brothers, Portadown .. .. .	70	2	10
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool .. .. .	368	7	8
Hewitt, J., Knockramer .. .. .	18	0	0
Gallaher (Limited), Belfast .. .. .	16	1	6
Grattan & Co. (Limited), Belfast .. .. .	17	6	7
Malcolmson, D., Lurgan .. .. .	12	10	0
McMullan, Thomas, & Co., Belfast .. .. .	71	19	8
Pinto, Henry, & Sons, London .. .. .	31	15	3
Smith, Stephen, & Co., London .. .. .	23	0	6
Wright, Layman & Umney, London .. .. .	23	8	4
Young & Mackenzie, Belfast .. .. .	61	18	3



*Cash Creditors.*

	£	s.	d.
Burns, Samuel, Coalisland (Representatives of) ..	105	0	0
Butler, Rev. Richard, Lurgan ..	10	0	0
Calvert, Anna, Lurgan ..	112	10	0
Calvert, Henry, Ballyshannon ..	230	0	0
Calvert, James, Lurgan ..	253	3	4
Calvert, Leonard, Lisburn ..	148	14	1
Calvert, Letitia, Ballyshannon ..	112	10	0
Calvert, William, Ballyshannon ..	112	10	0
Calvert, J. Ruddell, Portadown ..	210	0	0
Calvert, William L., Portadown ..	103	8	10
Calvert, George & William John, Portadown ..	20	0	0
Dobson, George, Gilford ..	30	13	9
Dobson, John, Lurgan ..	10	0	0
Ellis, William, Portadown ..	25	0	0
Johnston, James, Lurgan ..	10	0	0
Johnston & Allan, Lurgan ..	107	4	11
Jones, Thomas J., Lurgan ..	132	0	0
Love, Mary & John, Portadown ..	92	5	3
Macoun, Abraham, Lurgan ..	100	0	0
Macoun, John, Lurgan ..	21	13	9
Mathers, Henry, Magheralin ..	26	2	7
McKinney, Samuel, Cookstown ..	16	5	0
McKee, Mrs., Lurgan ..	20	0	0
McGaffin, Hugh, Lurgan ..	20	0	0
Ross, Hugh, Lurgan ..	96	15	0
Steen & Milliken, Belfast ..	329	18	3
Liabilities ..	3,424	2	4
Assets (after deducting preferential claims) ..	491	10	10

**Hall, Peter**, 66 (also known as 3 Victoria Buildings) Heaton Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, chemist. Trustee, John Kindred, 66 Kenilworth Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, accountant. Dated, October 15; filed, October 22. Liabilities unsecured, 565*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*; estimated net assets, 410*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Barron, Harveys & Co., London ..	20	0	0
Bolam, J., Newcastle ..	20	0	0
Bourne, Johnson & Latimer, London ..	32	0	0
Brettnall & Co., London ..	12	0	0
Cooper, W., Newcastle ..	35	0	0
Currie & Hutchinson, Newcastle ..	33	0	0
Kaufmann, —, Newcastle ..	35	0	0
Lamb, J., Newcastle ..	30	0	0
Lawson, G., Newcastle ..	25	0	0
Maw, Son & Thompson, London ..	41	0	0
Veiel, F. W., & Co., Cathcart ..	36	0	0
Warwick Brothers, London ..	17	0	0
Wrightson, F., Newcastle ..	20	0	0

**Wagh, George Henry**, 104 and 106 Grosvenor Street, Belfast, pharmaceutical chemist. Petition for arrangement, and affidavit of assets and liabilities. Dated October 18; filed October 20. Liabilities, secured or partly secured, 15*l.*; unsecured, 635*l.* Assets, after deducting secured claims, 375*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Boileau & Boyd (Limited), Dublin ..	13	2	5
Clarke, John, & Co. (Limited), Belfast ..	36	2	5
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool ..	94	0	7
Harrison & Waide, Leeds ..	16	3	1
Hunt & Co., Dublin ..	19	18	7
Hinshilwood, Thomas & Co., Glasgow ..	20	16	10
Marshall, W. J., Belfast ..	13	10	1
McBride, —, Bangor ..	100	0	0
McBride & Co., Belfast ..	15	18	0
McMullan, Thomas, & Co., Belfast ..	52	13	9
Stiven, Andrew, & Son, Glasgow ..	13	1	7
Wagh, Mrs. M. J., Bangor ..	50	0	0
Wilkinson, James F., Manchester ..	11	13	7
Bankers' Claims ..	50	0	0

**Gazette.****PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.**

**Holland, J. D., and Braidwood, W. F. L.**, under the style of T. Hicks & Co., High Street, Battersea, S.W., aerated-water manufacturers.

**Johnston, G., and Kite, E. W. D.**, under the style of Johnston & Kite, Sheffield, and Hillsborough, near Sheffield, surgeons and apothecaries.

**Peacock, B., and Peacock, E. C.**, under the style of B. Peacock & Sons, Castleford, glass-bottle manufacturers.

**Williams, T. H., and Rees, C. J.**, under the style of Vaughan & Co. and of Bainbridge & Pount, Leather Lane and Goswell Road, E.C., chemists and druggists.

**New Companies and Company News.**

**KEMPSON & Co. (LIMITED).**—To adopt an agreement with John F. Kempson for the acquisition of the business of "Kempson & Co." and of certain premises at Pye Bridge, Alfreton, Derby, and to carry on the business of chemical manufacturers.

**R. J. NELL & Co. (LIMITED).**—Capital 2,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (1,500 preference). Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of spice and drug merchant carried on by Richard J. Nell at Louth, Lines. The first directors are:—Richard Chatterton, Archibald M. Nell, and Richard J. Nell (managing-director, with 200*l.* per annum).

**E. L. NEWSOME'S MINERAL WATER COMPANY, BLACKPOOL (LIMITED).**—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with R. Holden, W. Kenyon, and R. Kenyon for the acquisition of certain lands and premises in Blackpool, Lancs, and to manufacture, sell, and deal in mineral and aerated waters and other drinks.

**"IMPERIAL" HOENNINGER-SAUERBRUNNEN NATURAL MINERAL WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 25,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a mineral-water spring owner and mineral-water bottler and importer carried on at Hoenninger-on-the-Rhine, Germany, as the "Imperial Hoenninger-Sauerbrunnen." The first directors are:—C. S. Dean, F. Duckworth, J. A. Marsh, J. Harling, W. Pilling, A. Tyrer, T. Bush, G. Holliday, H. E. Grobe, and Dr. Carl Cleving.

**GEORGE'S COUGH BALSAM AND INFANTS' POWDERS (LIMITED).**—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take carry on the business of proprietors and vendors of the patent medicines known as "George's Cough-balsam" and "George's Infants' Powders" now carried on by "B. A. George & Son" at Pentre, Rhondda Valley, Glam, and to enter into an agreement with Elizabeth George, Henry A. George, and Walter S. George. The first subscribers are:—W. Abraham, M.P., Pentre; D. Williams, Bridgend, gentlemen; G. Treharne, Pentre, solicitor; H. A. George, Pentre, chemist; J. W. Richards, Llwynypia, chemist; J. T. Price, Ton Pentre, tailor; and M. G. Williams, 48 Bailey Street, Ton Pentre, veterinary surgeon. Registered office, 205 Ystrad Road, Pentre, Glam.

**VIMBOS.**—A prospectus has been issued this week of a company formed to take over the French and Belgian rights in Vimbos. The nominal capital is fixed at 145,000*l.*, and the price to be paid for these said rights is 101,500*l.* No evidence is given that there is at present any trade whatever in this article in these countries and, in view of the facts lately published relative to the flotation of the English Vimbos Company, the proposal seems to be one of almost unparalleled audacity.

**Tabs.**

A WITTY GERMAN has written a song on modern materia medica, which is sung to the tune of "Rufst du mein Vaterland," and extends to fifty-two verses. This is the first one:—

Phenacetin, salol; salipyrin, kresol; lienaden;  
Chinaseptol, glucin; aïrol, trinitrin; itrol, arthriticin;  
Ovaraden.

**MERCURIC CHLORIDE** is soluble 1 in 7½ (by weight) of ether, not 1 in 4, as most Pharmacopœias give it. Madsen has so determined. Squire says 1 in 11 of 0.720 ether, which is just right, seeing that he gives "liquids by measure."

**WHEN COLORADO DRUGGISTS MEET** this is what they "yell":—

Whoop, te doodle, doodle do!  
We are druggists, who are you?  
We are stuck on Monitou—  
Whoop, te doodle, doodle do!



# "SANITAS" EMBROICATION

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8d., 1/-, and 2/6.

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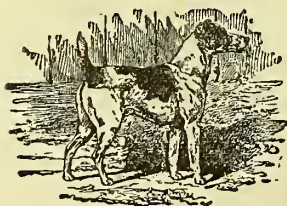
No. 1 Finest Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	16/ * owt.	Finest Pure STARCH POWDER	19/ * owt.
No. 2 Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	14/ * owt.	No. 1 Finest Light Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	25/ * owt.
BEST CLEANED LINSEED	15/ * owt.	No. 2 Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	21/ * owt.
No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ * owt.	"WHITE EARTH" Specially prepared for Toilet purposes.	18/ * owt.
No. 2 Pure FULLER'S EARTH	12/ * owt.	Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL SPECIAL	3 lb.
Pure LIQUORICE	10 lb.	Best Pure ARROWROOT	9 lb., in tin.

\* CARRIAGE PAID to Railway Stations within 200 miles of London (or allowance made for distances beyond) on a total weight of 112 lbs. and upwards of above articles. Smaller parcels delivered free on rail London at above prices.

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**ELLIMAN, SONS & CO., SLOUGH, ENGLAND.**


## SPRATT'S PATENT Dog Cakes

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**NANSEN  
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"GOOD MANAGEMENT IS BETTER THAN  
GOOD INCOME."

But both good management and good income may be  
attained by using

**Fletchers' Concentrated Liquors.**

## Editorial + Comments

### MEDICAL LAW.

THERE are signs that the medical profession are getting ready for a vigorous campaign in support of what they regard as their just claims. The recent election of a direct representative to the General Medical Council revealed an almost perfect unanimity on the part of the practitioners of England and Wales in this respect. The only difference between the candidates was that one was thought to be more thorough in his advocacy of a monopoly of medical and surgical treatment for registered practitioners than the others, and he received the greatest number of votes. Mr. Victor Horsley goes into the Medical Council with a mandate from his constituents to urge the Council to enforce the existing law against unregistered competitors, and to get the Council to help or to sanction the efforts to get a new Act which shall give power to deal penally with every sort of person other than a registered medical practitioner who in future shall undertake medical or surgical treatment for reward. This, as we have pointed out before, is not the equipment most suitable for a man who assumes his share in the important judicial functions which the Medical Council has to exercise; but it is perhaps the inevitable result of the principle of direct representation on that Council, and is a conclusive argument against the extension of that method of selection so long as the Council retains the public powers and responsibilities entrusted to it.

Simultaneously with the election of the President of the Medical Defence Union to the Medical Council come reports of the activity of a new body of medical men styling itself the Executive Committee of Corporate and Medical Reform. We do not know, and if we did we would not load this note with an explanation, of the relation which this new institution bears to its many contemporaries and predecessors in militant medicine. There are at present in existence the Medical Defence Union, the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association, the London and Counties Medical Protection Society, and probably some others besides the overgrown and unwieldy British Medical Association. How many of these societies have fallen by the way Mr. George Brown, their untiring organiser, alone perhaps knows. His ingenuity in suggesting new titles must be getting near exhaustion.

In view of the present activity, which is not in the least likely to have any more substantial result than previous efforts have had, it may be as well to state exactly the position of unregistered medical practitioners under the law as it now stands. In 1882 a very influential Royal Commission, which had been appointed to inquire into the complaints made against the Medical Acts and the claims for further restrictions, reported to Parliament. On this latter point the Commission unanimously and decisively declared that they considered it "undesirable to attempt to prevent unregistered persons from practising." They thought they should be prevented from representing themselves as being registered, or from assuming titles which would lead the public to believe that they were regular medical men. That



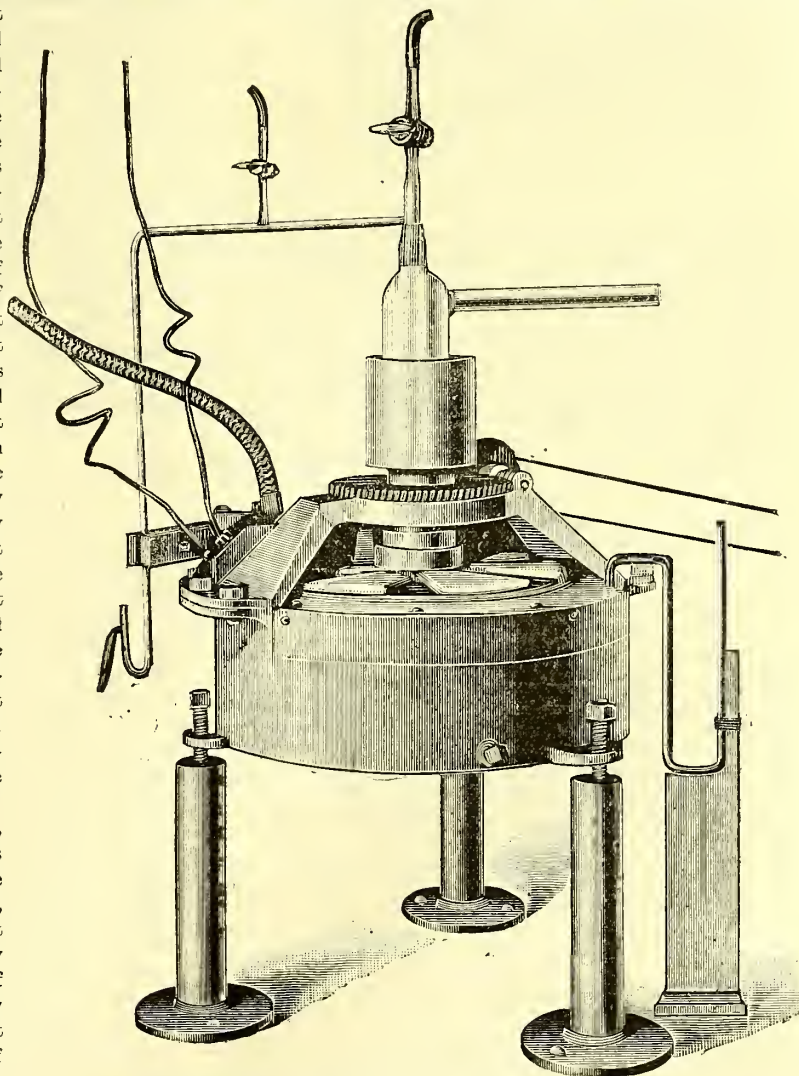
was exactly what the Medical Act of 1858 provided, and, in addition, it outlaws unregistered persons to the extent of refusing them the right to recover in a court of law for their services. Those sections of the Medical Act, therefore, are the measure of what modern legislators have thought necessary in the way of restrictions on competition with registered medical practitioners. And among the members of the Royal Commission who in 1882 unanimously agreed that these restrictions were sufficient were Sir W. Jenner, Mr. Simon, Professor Huxley, and Professor Turner among medical authorities; and Sir George Jessel, Professor Bryce, the Bishop of Peterborough, and Mr. Selater-Booth among statesmen. This will show what a serious task Mr. Horsley and his constituents have before them, if they are intending to work for a reversal of the opinion then declared.

There is, as we all know, a notable exception to the principle of free trade in medical treatment, which, as we have shown, is the recognised principle of legislation on the subject in this country. This occurs in the Apothecaries Act of 1815. That Act enables the Society of Apothecaries to recover penalties from persons not holding their certificate who act and practise as apothecaries. And to act and practise as an apothecary has been judicially defined as judging internal disease by its symptoms and selecting medicine for treatment of the same. This is obviously capable of very extensive application, and it is only fair to say that the Society of Apothecaries have on the whole shown a considerable degree of discretion in the use they have made of their powers. It is clear to them, as it must be to most thinking people, that any attempt to enforce it whenever it is infringed would very soon be resented by the public to the extent of having it repealed. And yet this, and more than this, is what the Horsleyites—that is, the medical profession—almost unanimously are clamouring for. They would, if they could, pass the administration of the Act into the hands of the Medical Defence Union, and extend it so as to make it apply to medical advice and surgical treatment as well as to the practice of the apothecary's art. The people who advocate such an alteration of the law must be deficient in the imaginative faculty. They cannot realise the public indignation if such a state of things were enforced.

It is necessary to add to this survey, for the benefit of those who are always ready to assume that it is legitimate to do what is not expressly forbidden, that the common law may have a great deal to say to anyone who recklessly takes upon himself to deal with cases of disease. If he does so he implicitly undertakes to bring a reasonable amount of skill and care to the discharge of his duty. The skill will be assumed in the case of a registered man, and the assumption is not in favour of the uncertificated practitioner, who may at any time find himself defendant in a civil suit, and possibly the accused in a criminal prosecution.

## ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI.

A NEW method of producing caustic soda by electrolysis is in the field, and Mr. Rhodin, its inventor, claims that he can do what no other before him has done—viz., produce bleaching-powder of full strength simultaneously with the caustic soda. The real difficulties in the electrolysis of sodium chloride are (1) that the water of the brine is subject to decomposition as well as the chloride, so that hydrogen appears along with the chlorine in the evolved gas, and prevents the complete chlorination of lime to form bleaching-powder; and (2) there is always a certain amount of reunion between the sodium and chlorine freed at the poles. This second difficulty is the one which has vexed experimenters most, and all sorts of diaphragms and obstacles have been placed in the way of the natural desires of the haloid and metal for reunion. Some of these are successful, for, as we have said, electrolytic caustic soda is a commercial fact. That the same measure of success has not attended the production of bleach is fair evidence that the first difficulty has not been



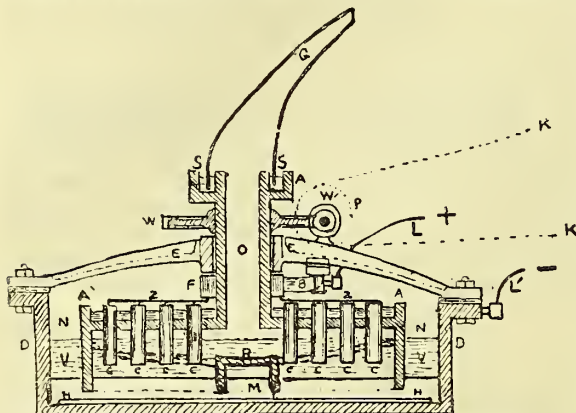
EXTERIOR OF THE EXPERIMENTAL APPARATUS.

The outer vessel (D in the section, p. 696) is about 1 foot in diameter.

overcome, and this is what Mr. Rhodin claims to have accomplished. He does it in this way. Into a cast-iron vessel, D, mercury is poured to form the cathode, then there is placed

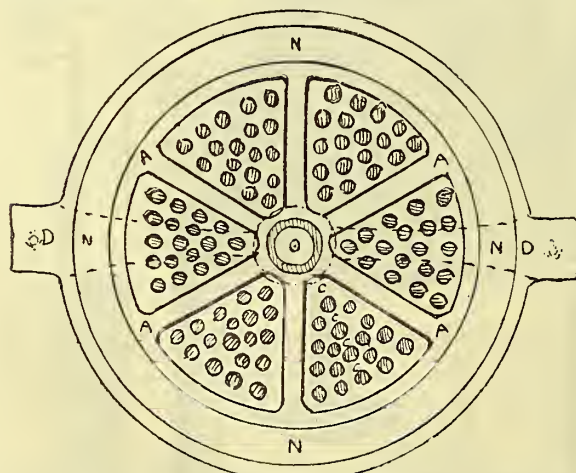


in it a circular chamber, A A, open at the bottom and closed at the top, but with the hollow cylinder O in the centre, which is continued, as shown in the largest illustration, to form an outlet for chlorine and inlet for brine. The chamber is divided into triangular sections, which are filled with carbon cylinders, C (forming the anodes). As the circumference of this vessel, A A, dips into the mercury, the interior is sealed off from the exterior, N V; hence when brine



CROSS-SECTION OF THE APPARATUS, SHOWING THE WORKING PARTS.

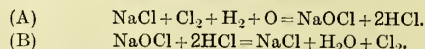
is conveyed into the chamber, and electrolytic force is applied through L L', chlorine comes away from the surface of the carbon anodes, and sodium at the mercurial cathode where sodium amalgam is formed. This is precisely what the Castner-Kellner process professes to do, but Mr. Rhodin has introduced a novelty. He makes the chamber with its army of anodes rotate, and heats the vessel D, the immediate result of these modifications being that the sodium amalgam is thrown out to the circumference of the vessel, where it meets with pure water at N V, and forms caustic soda ( $\text{Na}_2 + 2\text{OH}_2 = 2\text{NaOH} + \text{H}_2$ ). As this takes place outside the chamber in



PLAN TO SHOW ARRANGEMENT OF CARBON ANODES IN TRIANGULAR CHAMBERS.

which the chlorine is given off, there is no dilution of the haloid by hydrogen. Mr. Rhodin claims that the rotation of the anodes effects an important change in the brine—which, we ought to explain, is passed in and out of the chamber in a continuous stream. He states that he has found in practice that according to the speed at which the chamber rotates the brine which flows out may contain chlorate, or the gas

evolved may contain hydrogen, and the novelty of the invention is that the chamber is made to rotate just at the speed when neither chlorate nor hydrogen appear. The reactions which occur in the chamber are said to be:—



If, as is supposed, this cyclic change occurs, how does chlorate happen to be formed? That is one of the mysteries of the electrolytic chamber which even Mr. Rhodin does not explain. Still the hypothesis is ingenious, but, in the absence of experimental data, one can scarcely accept it as an explanation, and we must be content with the statement that hydrogen does not accompany the chlorine when the chamber is rotated at a certain speed. There are many mechanical provisions in the invention which need not be referred to, except one by which it is proposed to collect the hydrogen given off at N V and use it as fuel. This is, however, merely a suggestion, because so far the process is only in the experimental stage, and excepting reports by Dr. John Hopkinson and Mr. Norman Tate, who have watched it in that stage, and have been referred to by the chairman of the meeting at which the process was introduced to the Press on Tuesday, as "the very highest scientific experts," there is nothing but the inventor's statements to uphold the practicability of the method. The invention is being promoted by a company called the Commercial Development Corporation (Limited), which, with a capital of 200,000*l.*, is to carry on business as bankers, capitalists, company-promoters, alkali-makers, manufacturing chemists, drysalts &c. (there are a few dozen more departments which the Corporation are to take up). From a hint by the chairman, Mr. A. R. Harvey, managing director, 34 Castle Street, Liverpool, we understand that 1,000,000*l.* will be needed to establish Mr. Rhodin's patent as a manufacturing process, which is a lot of money for an experiment, as we can only consider it to be in the meantime.

### CURING VANILLA BY THE CALCIUM-CHLORIDE PROCESS.

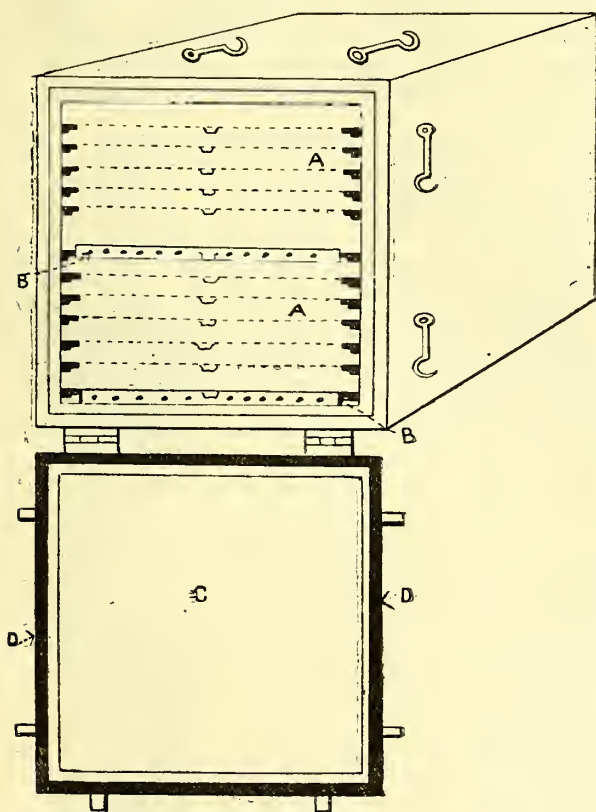
THE cultivation of vanilla is the largest secondary industry in the French colony of Réunion, near our own possession of Mauritius. Indeed, the profits yielded by it have more than once helped the farmers in the island to tide over a bad sugar season, although on an average the value of the vanilla production is only one-third of the 500,000*l.* which represents the sugar output. A great deal of the Réunion (or Bourbon, as it is often called) vanilla is consigned to London, and passes through our drug-auctions. About two seasons ago attention was called in the sales to some packages of Réunion vanilla which had just been received as having been "dried by a new process," but no information was given wherein that new process differed from the old. We were afterwards enabled (see *C. & D.*, September 12, 1896) to give a short outline of the process, which consists, in the main, in the substitution of calcium chloride as a drying-agent for the free air or hot-air stove formerly relied upon.

Consul C. W. Bennett, in a recent report, gives further particulars of the calcium chloride process, which appears to have thoroughly established itself in the island by this time. The preliminary treatment of the fruit is the same as that of the older method. The pods should be picked as soon as their lower portion begins to turn yellow. If picked too green their aroma does not fully develop; if too ripe they will split in the drying, which lowers their commercial value. Within twenty-four hours after gathering the pods should be dried in tins not too large to prevent all the



vanilla from being heated evenly; old petroleum-tins do very well. The tin is lined all through with wool, a quantity of vanilla-pods placed vertically at the bottom, and a horizontal layer laid on the top of the first one. A number of tins are then put in a halved wine-barrel, and hot water poured into the barrel up to the lid of the box; but no water must penetrate it. The barrel is covered with a piece of sacking and left overnight. The pods are then taken out, dried for a while in the air, and then indirectly exposed to sunlight, covered with a woollen cloth, and spread on shallow wooden boxes placed upon trestles. This first drying generally takes two or three days, and is completed when the pods have acquired uniformity of colour.

At this point the calcium-chloride process comes into operation. This is carried on in a galvanised-iron box, 40 inches long and broad, provided with a hinged door with indiarubber edging—airtightness being a necessary condition for the success of the process. We give a drawing of such a box as used by the *Crédit Foncier Colonial*, in which we have taken the liberty to improve somewhat upon the Consul's sketch, and to convert his metric measurements into British ones.



A Frames for vanilla (2 sets of five each).

B Double-bottomed tin for  $\text{CaCl}_2$ .

C Hinged door.

D Indiarubber edging to door.

The box measures 40 x 40 x 40 inches.

The  $\text{CaCl}_2$  tins are 4 inches below the lowest vanilla-frame.

The apparatus, as will be seen, is the same in construction as an ordinary hot-air chamber. The sliding hurdle frames rest on side brackets, a calcium-chloride tray being placed in the centre, and at the bottom. The vanilla-frames should not be made of resinous wood; split rattan is the best. The calcium-chloride vessels should be double-bottomed, the upper bottom being perforated, in order to allow the liquid ( $\text{CaCl}_2$  is extremely deliquescent) to escape. As a rule, the

process of drying takes from twenty-five to thirty days. The box should be opened every two or three days, and all mouldy pods removed. The usual charge for a whole box is 40 lbs. of calcium chloride and 100 lbs. of vanilla-pods. Any mouldy pods removed during the process of drying should be sunned, collected, and dried in a separate box.

When sufficiently dried, the vanilla-pods are exposed on small frames for several days in a covered and well-ventilated place, and then put in tins holding from 30 to 50 lbs. each. The pods are kept in these tins for several weeks, well closed, and are examined every few days, all pods showing traces of mildew being carefully wiped. When the pods appear to have reached full perfection of aroma the last stage but one in the treatment is reached. It consists in washing the pods in a receptacle containing clean water of a temperature of  $60^\circ \text{C}$ . ( $140^\circ \text{F}$ ). About three pints of water should be used for every pound of vanilla-pods, and the pods well stirred by hand during the washing-process. They are then lightly wiped and put to dry in the shade. In a few days they are ready for sorting according to length and quality, bundling, and boxing. Vanilla ought not to be shipped until at least a month after being boxed. Every few days it should be examined, and all pods showing traces of moisture removed.

The action of calcium chloride is of course due to the avidity with which it absorbs moisture. The advantages of the calcium-chloride process are that the loss of aroma almost inseparable from the old curing-processes is avoided, and that there is a great saving of hand-labour (which, in Réunion, costs about 1s. 6d. a day). Vanilla has realised very high prices recently, and its culture is extending in various parts of the Tropics. In Réunion there is now hardly a sugar estate which has not more or less land under vanilla. Many large planters cultivate nothing but vanilla, and in the parishes of Ste. Rose, St. Philippe, and St. Joseph the little plots of ground round the huts are covered with vanilla-creepers. When the pods are ripe they are sold green to a neighbouring merchant, realising quite a small fortune for the grower. The only drawback to the crop is that it gives rise to a great deal of theft. Many small fortunes have been made by illicit vanilla buyers, but the detection of the culprits is almost as difficult as that of diamond-thieves at the mines.

#### THE MINOR EXAMINATION.

The London correspondent of the *Scotsman* appears to have read *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* last week rather carefully, for in Monday's letter we find the following paragraph:—

There is some agitation going on in London among the chemists and druggists in consequence of the large percentage of failures at the recent examinations both here and in Edinburgh. The failures in London amounted to 73 per cent., and in Edinburgh to 69. In Edinburgh there has been a steady increase in the number of failures for the past few years. In the "trade" the theory is that the failures are the result of increasing the stringency of the examination, which has lately become harder and more academic, with a pronounced tendency to change from a purely pharmaceutical character into one that is largely academic and only partly pharmaceutical. There is no doubt the Pharmaceutical Council selected teaching examiners with the view of putting chemistry and botany on a more scientific basis, but the preponderance of failures looks as though too high a standard had been aimed at for the present class of candidates. It is doubtful, however, if the noise being made as to the numbers "plucked" at the recent examinations will have much effect in reducing the standard to which it is considered candidates ought to attain.

We have said nothing about reducing the standard of the examination. The present standard as expressed in the examination schedule is very good, and, we believe, gives the examiners sufficient scope for judging whether candidates



are fit and proper persons to be registered as chemists and druggists. That is the aim of the Pharmacy Act, and the duty of the Pharmaceutical Society, but recent events indicate that there is a tendency to force up the scientific subjects. It is pointed out to us that we were too mild last week in our references to the London failures in botany, because they are now about double what they were in 1893; which is true, but Dr. Stevenson's report shows that the 'rot' had set in before the teaching examiners were appointed.

#### GREGORY'S POWDER.

We print elsewhere a fuller report of the Gregory's powder case, heard at Guildford last week, in which a chemist succeeded in convicting the Bench that the powder is commonly made with carbonate of magnesia, and that such substitution is not to the prejudice of the customer. The conduct of the case requires no comment, but it is right that we should point out that Professor Gregory's formula prescribed calcined magnesia, just as the B.P. formula for "Gregory's powder" (a synonym for pulv. rhei co.) also prescribes magnesia and not carbonate of magnesia. So far as we know it is exceptional to make the powder with the carbonate. The purpose of this note is to warn those who use the carbonate not to rely upon the Guildford case as a precedent, for it is quite likely that the High Court would decide otherwise.

#### CONDUCT OF A SCIENTIFIC LIBRARY.

The title does not indicate any moral lapse on the part of a library, but is the subject of a paper which Mr. R. Steele, the popular Assistant-Secretary of the Chemical Society, communicated to the Library Association last week. He said that the principal difficulties in a scientific library, arising from the incessant progress of science, are the choice of books, the necessity for constantly renewing them, the number of periodicals, the publication of important works outside the ordinary channels, and the disposal of works which have become obsolete. The question of elementary and intermediate text-books, especially when the frequenters of the library comprise persons of widely-different ages and attainments, is very perplexing to the librarian. Periodicals are still more troublesome. Sometimes articles of great importance unexpectedly appear in their columns; then they are apt to change their character, and others, after a brief, and it may be brilliant, career, die young. It is, too, dangerous to get rid of old editions, as they may prove hereafter to possess an unsuspected value.

#### MANCHESTER PRICES.

The Manchester Pharmaceutical Association have just issued a retail price-list, copies of which can be obtained from the hon. secretary, Mr. A. Blackburn, 7 Exchange Street, Manchester, on receipt of trade-card and one shilling. To most chemists the prices quoted will be what Prince Bismarck said the throne of Bulgaria would be—a pleasant reminiscence. The prices are such as are recommended by the Council of the Association. Very fair, on the whole, they seem to be; just what we would recommend in a world where pharmacy had attained or had not lost its rightful position. But, except as something to hope for, we hardly see the purpose of the publication. Moreover, it is only fair to the Liverpool Chemists' Association to point out that to a very large extent the Manchester price list is a copy of theirs. The arrangement differs somewhat, but it is obvious that the general plan is the same. Under dispensing-charges Manchester lays down the rule, "No prescription to be dispensed for less than one shilling." We are quite disposed to agree with that principle. We are not sure that even in a world of cutters a competent chemist might not lay down the rule that no one should get the benefit of his services, except as a matter of charity, for a lower fee than one shilling. That

would be magnificent; it might pay; but, as the French general said, it would not be war.

#### FLUORINE.

Next week's meeting of the Chemical Society is sure to be a full one, for though Professor Dewar is not likely to pass liquid fluorine round the room by the tumblerful, he is to show experiments. He and Professor Moissan now find that liquid fluorine and liquid oxygen mix in all proportions if the oxygen is perfectly dry, and that it is the presence of moisture which determines the formation of the white explosive body, previously referred to in our reports of their discovery. This appears to be simply a hydrate of fluorine, decomposable with detonation by a slight rise of temperature. In the earlier experiments it was found that fluorine could not be liquefied by oxygen boiling under atmospheric pressure, but the professors now find that freshly-prepared liquid air, boiling under the same conditions, effects the liquefaction. The boiling-point of fluorine is found to be  $-187^{\circ}\text{C}$ ., and there is no sign of solidification nor even of loss of mobility at  $210^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The density of fluorine, as determined by the flotation of solids of known density, is 1.14, and the liquid is devoid both of magnetic action and of an absorptive effect upon the spectrum. The chemical reactions of the liquid are curious, as although at  $-210^{\circ}$  there is no action upon water or mercury, it still combines violently with hydrogen and oil of turpentine. It is with these and similar matters that Professor Dewar will deal next week.

#### SPOILED MEDICINE-STAMPS.

Mr. Arthur McKellar, of 69 South Portland Street, Glasgow (successor to Mr. Kinninmont), has sent us an interesting correspondence he has had with the Board of Inland Revenue in reference to some soiled medicine-stamps of his. The 18th section of the Medicine-stamp Act (42 Geo. III., c. 55) provides that stamps damaged, defaced, or spoiled in affixing may be exchanged for new ones if the Commissioners are satisfied that they have not been used. Mr. Alpe, in his "Handy-book" (page 37), says: "A liberal interpretation is given to this section. Old stamps are exchanged for new ones not only when they have been damaged . . . in affixing . . . but also when they have been spoiled by the accidental damage or destruction of medicines, and when, as sometimes happens, there is no demand for a medicine, and the stamped stock is unsaleable." Mr. Alpe then explains the procedure. Mr. McKellar's correspondence shows that the Board can stretch their liberality to the point of allowing for stamps even after the medicines have been once sold. Mr. McKellar wrote to the Commissioners on September 1 last stating that he had in his possession a number of proprietary articles bearing medicine-stamps of different values which articles had become unsaleable from different causes—demand stopped, soiled by exhibition, and so forth; and he asked if the Board would allow him for these. In reply, the Board asked him if he had himself purchased the stamps at a stamp-office, or if he bought the medicines already stamped. The answer was that the medicines were bought already stamped. "In that case," the Board rejoined, "you are not entitled to any allowance in respect of them," and they suggested that he should return the articles to the proprietors, from whom the Board might consider an application for allowance. Mr. McKellar, however, wrote again, saying that this was impracticable, as in some cases the proprietors of the articles in question were no longer in business, and the others would naturally refuse to take back articles for which the demand had ceased. The result was that a Revenue officer was sent to Mr. McKellar's establishment; he was required to make a declaration that the stamps had been legitimately soiled; and he was finally presented with a voucher authorising him to obtain the full value of these stamps in stamps of any other kind.



## Novelties.

### CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES FROM EXETER.

MESSRS. EVANS, GADD & CO., of Exeter, are making a good bid for Christmas trade in the way of special perfumes, put up in various styles of bottles, from 3d. to 2s. 6d. Among these are their lately-produced Victoria violets and Minnehaha perfumes. They are offering a prettily-designed cardboard case, suitable for a Christmas gift. These two perfumes are on the P.A.T.A. list, and the minimum price is also the advertised price. Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co. have also put their Ambrosia (a cod-liver oil substitute) on the P.A.T.A., and of this they have lately brought out a 1s. size. Sixpenny boxes, containing a bottle of perfume, a cake of soap, and a Christmas card, are an attractive novelty. The firm invite chemists to write to them for price-lists, showcards, handbills, and samples.

### THE NO. 1 FEEDER.

ONE of the earliest feeders made by Messrs. Maw was of the the shape shown in the accompanying engraving, and, now that medical men are giving more attention to the minutiae of infant-feeding, they have called for this old shape, because it comes up so closely to modern hygienic ideals. The old cork stopper has given way to a glass-screw stopper with an india-rubber washer. The tube is of glass throughout, and is of large bore, so that it is easily cleaned and kept clean. It is just the bottle for hand-feeding, yet a smart baby has little difficulty in helping itself. The bottle is round, and can be used in a steriliser if need be. It is, of course, made by Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson, Aldersgate Street, E.C.



### LABERN'S PERFUMES.

MESSRS. H. LABERN & SON, Harp Works, Stoke Newington, inform us the offer they made last week to send an appro. parcel to chemists for inspection has been liberally responded to. Their perfumes are excellent in quality and attractively put up. The first engraving represents a sample of their new "Mitre" stoppered-bottle, in which all varieties of the familiar odours are supplied to sell retail at 1s. 6d. and 3s. Labern's "Flower of France," the "Carnation Eau de Cogne," and various styles of boxed perfumes, one of which we illustrate, are also worth attention. We understand that where more than one chemist in a town is supplied, care is taken to prevent the adoption of similar labels, which can easily be done, as they offer a large variety to choose from. Messrs. Labern also assist chemists in the window-decoration business, and they are anxious to help chemists to push the perfume business in



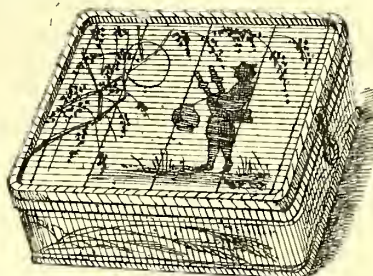
every way in their power, and this includes a protective agreement as regards profits. A floral showcard showing



the perfumes in miniature is provided, as well as hand bills.

### COOK'S TOILET-SOAPS FOR CHRISTMAS.

MESSRS. E. COOK & CO., of Bow, are offering their toilet-soaps in a great variety of packages for Christmas exhibition. Their principal line is Japanese lacquered boxes and baskets. These would make a gay show among other Christmas



novelties, and the vendor would know that he was selling a soap of first-rate quality at the same time. We mentioned last week the ingenious idea by which Messrs. Cook & Co are offering, through Letts's "British Almanac" coupons for samples of the "Riviera" toilet-soap, to be honoured by any chemist who has this soap in stock, the makers undertaking



to redeem the coupons. We take this opportunity of showing a photograph of the "soap castle" which constituted Messrs. Cook & Co.'s tabernacle at the Grocers' Exhibition.

### PASTILL. MENTHOL CO.

MESSRS. GLAISYER & KEMP, chemists, Brighton, have produced an elegant throat-pastille under the above name,



They appear to be made with a gelatine-and-gum basis, and contain, besides menthol, other medicaments which are serviceable in the treatment of common throat-troubles such as laryngitis. They are pleasant to taste, are put up in elegant style, and, judging from their effects on the editorial throat, they will be popular. The pastilles are gelatine-coated.

#### BRAZILIAN TOBACCO AND CIGARETTES.

SMOKERS who want a new sensation can do worse than try Silva & Pinna's cigarettes and tobaccos, which are made with tobacco grown in Brazil. The cigarettes are rolled in liber of some kind, and one style of them has the ends closed by folding over, so that they smoke without bits of tobacco coming out. The cut tobacco is much too strong for refined taste, and it is right that we should say that the flavour of the tobacco is objectionable to some, although the seasoned smoker delights in it. Mr. Wm. Newbery, 155 Friar Lane, Reading, is the importer.

#### "FALONA."

THIS is the name of a new infants' food (vegetable and cereal) manufactured by the Falona Food and Cereal Company, 15 Seething Lane, E.C., and put up in packages varying in price from 6d. to 2s. 6d. To the chemist some reasons other than elegance of package are required before he can be expected to stock such preparations, and these, we think, he has in the composition of the food, its great assimilability, and its nice taste. The food contains, according to Dr. Bernard Dyer's analysis, 13.19 per cent. of albuminoids, 72.03 per cent. of carbohydrates, and 3.55 per cent. of fat; therefore, as an addition to milk for infants over three months old it is calculated to ensure rapidity of growth, and from our own observation we judge that its retention by the stomach and subsequent assimilation are assured.

### Trade Notes.

MESSRS. JOHN SYMONS & CO. (LIMITED), of Totnes, Devonshire, have been awarded the gold medal at the Victorian Era Exhibition for the excellence of their cyder and wines of this year's production.

THE VICTORIA PUBLISHING COMPANY, of 11 Queen Victoria Street, have got out an attractive and cheap almanac for distribution by chemists. The literary matter and the illustrations are excellent, and we presume a cover can be added with the chemist's own announcement.

THE FRAME FOOD COMPANY, of Lombard Road, Battersea, have produced a new showcard, which very effectively sets forth the muscle-yielding qualities of their food. The showcard is handsomely framed in gold, with a crimson mount. We understand the company will send one, carriage free, to any chemist who will exhibit it.

"PEARS' ANNUAL" for 1897 will be published on November 22. It will contain twelve full-page illustrations in colours, and two large plates in seventeen colours of "Cherry Ripe" and "Bubbles," the two well-known paintings by the late Sir John Millais. There will also be a complete novel by R. E. Francillon, entitled "Mermaids' Money," with illustrations by Lucius Rossi.

THE MASTICATOR is a little instrument for fitting upon a fork, so that those who have bad teeth can score or cut up their steaks, &c., into little bits. We figured it when it was introduced several years since, and have now to mention that MESSRS. W. B. FORDHAM & SONS (LIMITED), York Road, King's Cross, have bought the manufacturers' entire stock and the rights for future manufacture.

JOHN DAVIS'S *Domestic Year-book for 1898* is well suited for distribution by chemists, as the literary matter includes pages of health notes, hints for the sick-room, hints for the kitchen, hints for the nursery, accidents and emergencies, toilet hints, and a companion to the medicine-chest. It is pleasingly illustrated, and a good bit of space is left for the chemist to advertise his own specialities. A special novelty

is introduced this year by the addition of a coupon of insurance against railway accidents, available for one person until June 30, 1898.

### Trade-Marks Applied for.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," October 27, 1897.)

THE "INIS"; for paints, varnishes and stains, and enamels included in Class 1, and size. By Atkinson, Dillon & Co., 36 Aire Street, Leeds, manufacturing chemists. 203,606.

Combination of devices and wording; for veterinary medicines. By Howarth & Co., 270 Yorkshire Street, Rochdale, manufacturing veterinary chemists. Essential particulars, the devices. 207,220.

"SORBOR"; for a veterinary preparation. By F. F. Hills, L.R.C.P., The Elms, Campbell Road, Croydon. 207,929.

"LIMANOL"; for a patent medicine (for human use), being an extract produced from peat. By Limanol Gesellschaft mit Beschränkter Haftung, 16 Französische Strasse, Berlin, manufacturers.

"EUGOL"; for all goods included in Class 3. By Bayard, Sons & Bayard, 26 Bridle Lane, Golden Square, London, W., manufacturing chemists. 208,136.

Sketch of girl drawing off aerated water from seltzogene; for all goods included in Class 42. By the Seltzogene Patent Charges Company, 73 Hamer Street, St. Helens, Lancashire. 207,570.

"VANESSA"; for toilet-soap. By B. Seemann, 24 Hildreth Street, Balham, soap-merchant and perfumer. 203,355.

"POETIC"; for oil for toilet-purposes. By Macdonald & Co., 28 Neptune Street, Liverpool, oil-manufacturers.

### Marriages.

BOYD—MCFADYEANE.—At Irvine, on October 12, by the Rev. Joseph Paton, of Fullarton, Alexander Boyd, chemist, Pollokshields, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Lauchland McFadyeane, Shewalton Moor, Irvine.

GRAESSER—MADDOCK.—On September 23, at St. George's Church, Guelph, Ontario, Mr. Franz Alexander Graesser, eldest son of Mr. R. F. Graesser, J.P., C.C., of Argoed Hall, and proprietor of the Cefn Chemical-works, Wales, to Miss Edith Rosamond Maddock, daughter of Mr. R. F. Maddock.

### Deaths.

HUGHES.—On October 14, at Holyhead, Mr. John Griffith Hughes, formerly in business at Holyhead as a chemist and stationer. Aged 49.

PROSSER.—On October 17, at Sheerness-on-Sea, Kent, Mr. David Prosser, chemist and druggist, 77 High Street, Mile Town, Sheerness, aged 61 years. Mr. Prosser's death occurred somewhat suddenly, although he had been ailing for some time. Only on the Tuesday prior to his death he journeyed to London for the purpose of consulting a specialist, and on his return he became worse and never rallied. Mr. Prosser was a native of Llandovery, South Wales, and at that town served his apprenticeship. He came to Sheerness thirty-nine years ago as an assistant to Mr. Charles Polson, High Street, Mile Town. On Mr. Polson retiring from business Mr. Prosser went into business on his own account at 77 High Street, and he became one of the leading tradesmen of the town. He subsequently extended his business by taking in No. 79 High Street. He took an active part in public affairs. In 1872 he was elected a member of the Local Board, and in 1871 became a member of the Board of Guardians, of which body he was Chairman at the time of his death. He was also Chairman of the Technical Education Committee, member of the School Board, Overseer of the Poor, at one time a leading Liberal, and a worker in connection with Alma Road Congregational Church.

PULLAN.—On October 9, Mr. Thomas Pullan, chemist and druggist, Bradford, late of Manningham, Yorks. Aged 70.

RAND.—Mr. Edward Rand, a well-known American botanist and orchid-collector, residing at Pará, Brazil, committed suicide there on September 29.



## Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. F. W. Greaves, chemist and druggist, Pendleton, who died on April 20 last year, has been proved by Mrs. Ellen Greaves, the widow, and Mr. Rupert Marsden, by whom the personalty is sworn at 293*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*

The will of Mr. Joseph Bennett, chemist and druggist, 34 Clarence Road, West Street, Bristol, and 24 St. Paul's Road, Clifton, who died on July 3, 1897, has been proved by Mrs. Mary Ann Bennett, the widow and sole executrix of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 412*l.*

The will of Mr. Frederick D. Delf, pharmaceutical chemist, 50 Westgate and Savile Town, Dewsbury, who died on August 5 last, is proved by Mrs. Emma Delf, the widow and sole executrix of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 770*l.* 12*s.*

## Personalities.

MR. A. SIMPSON, of Port Elizabeth, has been appointed dispenser to the Bay Hospital at that town.

MR. S. R. VAN DUZER, wholesale druggist, of Southampton Row, will be installed W.M. of the Canterbury Lodge, 1,635, at Golden Square, on November 9.

MR. WILSON FELL HUNTER, chemist and druggist, Whitehaven, has been elected as one of the bondholders' representatives on the Whitehaven Harbour Board.

MR. G. A. CHAMPION, President of the Natal Board of Pharmacy, who, with his family, has spent some six months or more in this country, left England for his home at Durban last week.

PROFESSOR WYNDHAM R. DUNSTAN, F.R.S., delivered an address on "The Beginnings of Chemical Action" to the 'Goldsmiths' Institute Chemical Society on Thursday evening. Sir F. Abel, Bart., K.C.B., presided.

WE stated last week that Mr. Alderman James Duckworth, the Liberal candidate for the Middleton division of Lancashire, is the Chairman of Boots (Limited). We should have said he was, for he resigned his chairmanship and his office as a director a year ago.

HERR HOFRATH EUGEN DIETERICH, the senior partner in the Helfenberg Chemical-works, has been elected a member of the Saxon House of Representatives. Herr Dieterich stood as a National Liberal, a German political creed which corresponds somewhat with moderate Conservatism in England.

THE *Hampstead Express*, in mentioning that Mr. G. Foster, chemist, late of Heath Street, Hampstead, has, through the kind efforts of Mr. E. B. Stamp, of High Street, been selected for a pharmaceutical annuity, adds that Mr. Foster, who is 82 years old, has been totally blind for about twenty years, but carried on his business until a year or two ago.

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to bestow upon Mr. Walter Hills, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, a mark of Royal favour in connection with the sixtieth anniversary of her Majesty's reign by presenting him with a medal to be worn as a decoration commemorative of that event. We are indebted to the Editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for this item.

## Business Changes.

*Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section free of charge, if properly authenticated.*

MR. T. WOOD has, through the agency of Messrs. Berdoo & Co., disposed of his business at 14 The Parade, Tooting, S.W., to Mr. A. Coates, of Belper.

MR. H. LIONEL HUNT, of Bristol, has purchased the business carried on for twelve years by Mr. J. E. Gibson at 107 London Street, Reading.

MR. W. H. DAVISON has disposed of his business at 66 High Street, Hastings, to Mr. E. W. Shipman, of Billingshurst. Messrs. Berdoo & Co. conducted the transfer.

MR. F. J. LANE, of Great Yarmouth, has purchased, through the agency of Messrs. Berdoo & Co., the business lately carried on by Mr. H. Patman at High Street, Halesowen.

MESSRS. HICKMAN & SON, of Bridgwater, have disposed of their branch business at Wedmore to Mr. S. E. Torsion, of St. Neots. Messrs. Berdoo & Co. effected the sale.

MR. F. GUTTRIDGE, of Horncastle, has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. J. Brothers, at 107 High Street, Ashford. Messrs. Berdoo & Co. conducted the transfer.

MR. PETER BOA, pharmaceutical chemist, Edinburgh, has been asked by many of the residents in the Merchiston district to open a branch pharmacy there, and this he is to do shortly.

WM. CUSSONS (LIMITED), grocers, drapers, hosiers, &c., in Hull and other Yorkshire towns, have just opened a drug-store in connection with their chief establishment, Beverley Road, Hull.

MR. WM. WALKER, formerly manager of Messrs. Wm. Doig & Son's branch shop, Albert Street, Dundee, has recently commenced business on his own account at Clarendon Place, Downfield, Dundee.

MR. CHARLES WHITCOMBE, of Petworth, has purchased the business of the late Mr. W. Greenshields, of Petersfield, which he will in future conduct personally. He has taken his late assistant at Petworth into partnership for the Petworth business.

UNDER instructions from the executor, the shop 8 James Street, the Docks, Cardiff, lately in the occupation of Mr. R. Williams, chemist and druggist, was, together with the goodwill, offered for sale by auction by Messrs. S. Hern & Pertwee, on October 21, at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff. The property is held from the Marquess of Bute for 99 years from 1849, at the low yearly ground-rent of 1*l.* 4*s.*, and after spirited competition it was knocked down to a gentleman named Henry for 1,800*l.*, the stock, &c., to be taken at a valuation.

A SHORT time ago the old-established chemist and druggist business of the late Mr. Cannell, Queen Square, Wolverhampton, was acquired by Mr. Sidney Phillips, formerly of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys, London. On taking possession Mr. Phillips made extensive alterations to the shop and put in a completely new front. Now the premises have been secured by a music-hall syndicate, and they are to be pulled down for an imposing music-hall. Mr. Phillips has this week therefore removed his business to No. 90 Lichfield Street, one of the principal streets in Wolverhampton.

## New Books.

*Any book named in this list can be supplied post-free to any part of the world on receipt of the published price by the Publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.*

Broadbent, Sir Wm. H., M.D., and Broadbent, Dr. John F. H., *on Heart Disease*. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.) Pp. 351. 10*s.* 6*d.*

Hare, H. A. *A Text-book of Practical Therapeutics*. 6th ed. Roy. 8vo. Pp. 758. 21*s.* net. (Kimpton.)

Hewetson, H. B. *Localisation of Headache and Sick Headache, indicating Origin, Pathology, Treatment*. 8vo. Pp. 140. 7*s.* 6*d.* net.

Leumann, B. H. S. *Notes on Micro-Organisms Pathogenic to Man*. 8vo. boards. 3*s.* (Longmans.)

Ringer, S., Salisbury, H. *Handbook of Therapeutics*. 13th ed. 8vo. Pp. 758. 16*s.* (H. K. Lewis.)

Urquhart, J. W. *Electric Light: Production, Use; Directions for Treatment of Dynamo-electric Machines, Batteries, Accumulators, Electric Lamps*. 6th ed. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 444. 7*s.* 6*d.* (Lockwood.)

Walsh, D. *The Röntgen Rays in Medical Work. Introduction upon Electrical Apparatus and Methods* by J. E. Greenhill. 8vo. Pp. 144. 6*s.* (Baillière.)

ERGOT-PRESERVATION.—The latest suggestion is to coat the ergot with ethereal tincture of tolu, as in varnishing pills.



"THIS river of yours seems to me a sickly stream," said a grumbling traveller. "Yes," said the native, "it's always confined to its bed."—*Spatula*.



## rade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., October 28.

TRADE in chemicals continues steady, but without any features of marked interest. Citric and tartaric acids are slow of sale. Quicksilver has been raised in price. Howard's quinine has been advanced in price, but privately the market remains very dull. Nitrate of soda is higher, and so are recovered sulphur and sulphate of ammonia. Sulphate of copper is lower. Naphtha, bleaching-powder, caustic-soda, salt-cake, benzols, and carbolic acids are firm. The drug-market has been pretty active, and at to-day's auctions considerably more than one-half of the goods offered sold with good, and in some cases brisk, competition. Cape aloes was barely steady; Curaçao and Socotrine unchanged. Good green buchu-leaves wanted; long and yellow round leaves neglected. Araroba dull of sale. Balsams of Peru and Tolu are firm. Siam benzoin was in large supply, and sold rather cheaply, common Sumatra is also plentiful. Calumba in demand at full rates. Crude camphor quiet. Cardamoms offering more freely and easier in tone. Colocynth neglected. Dragon's-blood shows no improvement. Ergot of rye steady. Gamboge neglected. Honey sold rather cheaply. There was less demand for Jalap, and Brazilian ipecacuanha was unaltered. Carthagena-root slightly easier. Genuine Kino is dearer. Kola-nuts quiet. Menthol sold cheaply at auction, but privately the market is firm. Musk a dead letter. Castor and cod-liver oils firmly held. Japan peppermint and citronella oil dearer. Star-anise oil easier. Cassia oil was "slaughtered" at auction at low prices. Lime-oil is easier for distilled. Orange-peel steady. Rhubarb tending downwards. Tiunevelly seuna in strong demand at a fresh advance in price, Alexandrian leaves are easier. Japan wax is unchanged, but Jamaica beeswax is a trifle easier. In drysaltries, spices, &c., there are few alterations. Galls remain firm, but gambier is easier. Shellac quiet. Turmeric is firm, Bengal selling at 12s. per cwt. Japan wax shows no change. Mace and nutmegs are dull. Zanzibar cloves have fluctuated, but close with an easier tendency. Cochin ginger is quiet, pimento easier, peppers dull and lower. In the oil market, linseed oil is again dearer, rape-oil firm, both for brown and refined, crude cotton-seed oil steady, refined slightly easier. Cochin coconut oil is easier for arrival, palm oil slightly lower. Turpentine weaker at 23s. 3d. per cwt., Petroleum dull of sale.

Our New York correspondent telegraphs on Thursday afternoon that prime *Snake-root* offers at 5s. per lb., while *Sassafras-root* is held for 7½s. per lb. *American* roots generally are active. *HGH peppermint* oil is neglected. *Honduras sarsaparilla* has advanced 1c. per lb., and *Beeswax* is steady at 27c. per lb.

Our Smyrna correspondent telegraphs on Wednesday afternoon that the sales for the week amount to 120 cases, at from 7s. 3d. per lb., f.o.b. Smyrna, for current *Tale quale*, 7s. 5d. for *Druggists'*, and 7s. 11d. for the so-called "*Holland*" grade. The market closes steady.

ACID (CHRYSOPHANTIC).—One of the manufacturers' agents is reported to be selling at 10s. per lb., which is below the general market rates.

ACIDS.—*Citric* slow, at 1s. 1¼d. to 1s. 1½d. per lb. for B.P. quality. *Tartaric* dull; English (B.P.), 1s. 1½d.; foreign, 12½d. per lb., from the makers.

ALOES.—*Cape* aloes remains neglected. The fair supply of 61 cases at auction presented the usual assortment. Forty-one of these sold at 21s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for good bright hard, 19s. 6d. down to 17s. for partly drossy, and from 15s. to 15s. 6d. per cwt. for common drossy and soft quality. Fine bright hard aloes is held for 22s. per cwt. *Curaçao* aloes was in rather larger supply than has been usual of late, the total offerings amounting to 163 packages, including a fair proportion of very good quality. The bulk of this sold at 26s. to 28s. per cwt. for nice bright brown liver, 18s. to 16s. for ordinary, and from 13s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt. for common dark and capey. Of *Socotrine* aloes, 80 kegs, fair, hardish of good aroma, which had been offered at auction before, were again placed on sale. Ten kegs were knocked down at 78s. per cwt. The remainder was bought in at 80s. per cwt. Another parcel of 6 kegs low dark rubbish (1894 import) was offered without reserve, but found no buyer.

ARARоба.—A parcel of 5 barrels good bright araroba from Bahia was offered for sale to-day and bought in at 2s. 6d. per lb. The market is very quiet. Sixty-three packages of *Araroba* have arrived per *Thames* from Bahia.

ASAFETIDA.—The *Oriental* from Bomoay has brought 118 cases. No asafetida was offered at auction to-day.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—One cask of thin liquid cloudy yellow balsam, from Panama, sold at auction to-day at 1s. 8d. per lb.

BENZOIN.—*Siam* gum was represented at auction to-day by 59 packages, of which about 20 sold at easier rates. Small to medium bold loose almonds, slightly blocky, realised 15½s. 7s. 6d. to 17½s. per cwt. Another lot, not quite so good, brought 12½s. 10s. to 12½s. 15s. per cwt. Blocky siftings of fair pale colour are held for 6½s. 17s. 6d., and dull grey siftings at 55s. Fine *Sumatra* benzoin is still quite wanting upon the market, although it would realise high prices if offered. Of ordinary, 250 packages were offered to-day, but only 53 packages sold. Good seconds, almond centres, false-packed ends, realised 5½s. 5s. to 5½s. 10s., rather grey and dull ditto, red borders, fair flavour, good centres, sold at 85s. to 95s.; ditto, old fracture, fair almond centres, are held for 70s. per cwt. For a parcel of *Penang* gum of fair almond centres, and very false packed sides, 48s. per cwt. is asked.

BUCHU.—A parcel of *Long* leaves, of fair colour and aroma, which has been lying in warehouse here for some time, was offered by a second-hand owner. It consisted of 27 bags, and was bought in at 9d. per lb. Another parcel of 7 bags long green leaves was bought in without mention of price. *Round* leaves were represented at auction by 15 bales, almost all of poor quality. Stalky and yellow leaves of weak aroma were bought in at 6d. per lb. There is no demand for common buchu. A parcel of 10 packages, at the end of the auctions, was not reached when our report closed.

CALUMBA.—More plentiful at auction. Of about 90 bags offered, the bulk sold at firm prices. Medium to bold, dusty, partly yellowish mixed, realised 30s. per cwt., subject to approval; and fair yellowish sorts, 35s.; and medium to bold part bright, 40s. 6d. per cwt.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Fifty-six robbins of good green tops were shown at auction to-day, but elicited no bid, 4d. to 4½d. per lb. being required.

CANTHARIDES.—*Chinese* flies of good quality are very scarce, and would probably sell readily if offered. The nominal quotation is 1s. 1d. per lb.

CARDAMOMS.—At auction 160 packages were offered, of which about 130 sold, at 3d. to 4d. lower for medium grades; Ceylon-Mysore, fair, long, and round medium pale, realised 3s. 9d.; medium to bold fair yellowish sold at 4s., subject to approval; fair medium, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d.; specky and split, 3s. 4d.; dull, lean, and shelly, 3s. 4d. For *Ceylon-Malabar*, medium to bold brownish pale 3s. 6d. is asked, a bid of 3s. 4d. being refused. Common yellow *Seed* realised 3s. 3d. per lb. Mail-reports from Bombay, dated September 29, state that a fairly good business continues to be done in cardamoms. Transactions have taken place in *Mysore* at prices ranging from 225r. to 250r. per lb., while in *Malabar* several parcels changed hands from 165r. to 190r. per lb. The market is very steady, and there is a good demand, especially for *Malabar*. "Seeds" are quoted at 2s. to 2 10r. per



lb. The exports from Ceylon in the periods between January 1 and September 21 of the last four years have been as follows:—

Year ...	1897	1896	1895	1894
lbs. ...	366,033	243,177	260,255	212,462

Of this year's shipments, 195,788 lbs. have gone to the U. Kingdom, 29,330 lbs. to Germany, and 140,503 lbs. to India.

**CASCARA SAGRADA.**—Fair quality may still be had at 17s. 6d., probably even at 17s. per cwt. At auction 50 bags good bright, partly quilly, bark from San Francisco, were shown and bought in at 18s. per cwt.

**CASCARILLA.**—Twelve bags of bright but dusty and very small sold at 25s. per cwt. at auction. For good bright 36s. per cwt. is asked.

**CINCHONA.**—Seven bales fair West African *Succirubra* quill were shown at auction and bought in at 6d. per lb. This variety now realises prices far above its quinine-value on account of the demand for it on the part of *Cinchonidin* makers. Of 44 bales *Guayaquil* bark 25 sold at 5½d. to 5¾d. per lb. for fair partly brown thin quill, and at 5½d. to 7d. per lb. for fair to good Loxa kind, but damaged. Twenty bales *Carthagena* bark, slightly damaged, but of good quality, were bought in at 7d. per lb.

**COCA-LEAVES.**—Of 60 bales offered at auction, 41 sold at 4½d. to 4¾d. for fair green, rather broken *Truxillo*, slightly damaged, and 2d. to 4d. for more damaged ditto. Fair broken leaf is held for 9d. per lb.

**COCAINE** is quiet for the present. *Zimmer's* brand is quoted at 8s. 6d. per oz. for hydrochlorate.

**COLOCYNTH.**—*Turkish* apple is in moderate supply, but slow of sale. Twenty-seven cases fair pale apple, partly broken and seedy, from Jaffa, were mostly bought in at 1s. 3d. per lb. Three cases low dark brown, broken and seedy colocynth, from Trieste, were bought in at 1s. per lb. Eighteen cases fair *Spanish* pulp are held for 4s. per lb. Sales are difficult to effect at present.

**CREAM OF TARTAR.**—Very sluggish at 75s. 6d. per cwt. for best white French *Crystals*, and 77s. 6d. to 79s. per cwt. for *Powder*, on the spot.

**CROTON SEED.**—The only parcel offered to-day was one of five bags dark mixed and dull seed from Colombo, which was bought in at 45s. per cwt.

**CUTTLE-FISH.**—Firmly held. 60 mats of medium to polish white were held for 4d. per lb. at auction to-day.

**DRAGON'S-BLOOD.**—Really fine quality is much wanted, but there is none here at present. The 20 cases offered at auction were mostly poor stuff. Two cases soft seedy lumps, of fair colour, sold at 6d. per cwt., while a similar parcel was bought in at 6d. 5s. per cwt. Dark, damp, flat cakes were bought in at 85s. to 90s. per cwt.

**ELEMI.**—Eight cases very dark common gum, imported as far back as 1882, and without much aroma, were bought in at from 22s. to 24s. per cwt. There were no bids.

**ERGOT OF RYE** remains scarce and dear. The supply offered at auction to-day was mostly of very indifferent quality. Three bags poor and very wormy *Russian* (1893 import) sold at 6d. per lb. Twenty-two bags dark to fair *Russian* are held nominally at from 10½d. to 11d. per lb., and a parcel of 12 bags fair sound *Russian* ergot from Hamburg was bought in without mention of price.

**EUPHORBUM.**—Thirty bags of fair quality, in bundles, are held for 5d. per lb. This article is neglected.

**GALLS.**—The supply of *Persian* galls on the market is small and firmly held—so firmly, in fact, that it is difficult to make sales, although the position is a very strong one. Blue galls are quoted at 52s. 6d. to 56s. 6d., green at 45s. to 50s., white, 41s. to 42s. 6d., and sorts at 49s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. Blue *Smyrna* galls are held for 46s. to 47s. per cwt. on the spot.

**GAMBOGE.**—Twenty-nine cases were shown to-day, and all bought in at nominal rates: fair, partly blocky pipe, partly good fracture, 9d. per cwt.; ordinary, partly blocky pipe, of dark mixed fracture, at 7d. 15s. per cwt.; fair pickings at 7d. per cwt.

**GUAIACUM.**—There were two parcels of this drug at auction to-day. One consisted of 3 barrels good to very fine, bright gum in 2½-cwt. blocks, direct import from San Domingo. This parcel realised from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. One barrel low woody brought 2½d. per lb. Another parcel of 10 cases, from Amsterdam, hard, dull, earthy, and woody gum was bought in at 3d. per lb.

**GUM ACACIA.**—A fair assortment of acacia gum was shown at the drug-sales. Six bales good soft pale sorts from Suez were bought in at 93s. per cwt. nominally. Three bales, dull sorts, also from Suez, were bought in without mention of price. Fifteen bales dull dusty, dark and amber mixed sorts, were bought in at 65s. per cwt. Two cases small, rather brownish, picked Trieste grain were bought in at 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt., and three cases, fair bright ditto, at 15l. per cwt. Five cases of picked gum offered "without reserve," but only one of them sold at 6l. 5s. per cwt. for clean small grain; the others were bought in at 12l. per cwt. for medium to bold pale picked. Thirty-nine bags fair glassy, partly ambery *Aden* sorts, were bought in without mention of price; and twelve bags *Aden* siftings were bought in at 35s. per cwt. *Soudan* sorts quiet, with a small business. The quotations run from 55s. for common hard up to 80s. per cwt. for good soft pale. *Trieste* picked gum is in small supply. Some sales have been made for forward delivery. *Persian* gum remains firm at 20s. to 25s. per cwt. for reddish to pale picked and 16s. to 21s. per cwt. for fair to fine sorts. For good siftings 18s. per cwt. has been paid, and for block gum 13s. 6d. per cwt. The recent arrivals are almost entirely of poor quality. The *Times* correspondent with the Sirdar's army, in the course of a report to his journal from Berber on trade prospects in the Soudan, observes that a considerable quantity of gum acacia is still stored at Berber. Most of the gum which in past years was exported *via* Assouan and Suakin belonged to the Khalifa himself, who brought it into trade through Berber merchants. But that trade has now ceased altogether.

**GUM AMMONIACUM.**—One case of good small to bold yellow drop, partly cakey, woody and earthy mixed, was shown to-day. A bid of 46s. per cwt. was rejected for it, and the lot was bought in at 55s. per cwt.

**GUM MASTICH.**—Very scarce and in demand. Good pale drop is held at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. At auction only one case, very dark yellow drop, was shown and bought in at 1s. 5d. per lb. No bid was made for it.

**GUM OLIBANUM.**—Good qualities are scarce and firmly held, 45s. per cwt. being the price for good pale drop, while medium to fair drop is quoted at 25s. to 28s. per cwt. At auction last Thursday only 20 cases out of 455 offered sold at 28s. per cwt. for pale pea-size, and 35s. per cwt. for fair pale drop. Ten cases good, pale, picked and bulked drop, were offered at auction. They were bought in at 60s. per cwt.

**HONEY.**—The supply of *Jamaican* honey at to-day's auctions was of very poor quality. It consisted of 45 packages, of which a part sold at 25s. per cwt. for thick, partly liquid amber. Common dark, rather dirty mixed, realised 20s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. The remainder was bought in at nominal rates. The market is steady. Twenty half-barrels thick, dull brownish *Chilian* honey were bought in at 27s. per cwt. Another parcel of 30 barrels, dull grey and yellow mixed, was bought in at 30s. per cwt. A parcel of 35 cases good white set *Californian* honey is held for 30s. per cwt. Another lot of 50 cases liquid, clean yellow, filtered honey, in tins, was bought in at a nominal price. Thirty cases pale yellow candied *Italian* honey, of fair aroma, were bought in. A case containing 24 small boxes of *Jamaican* honey, in comb, sold at 5s. for the lot.

**IPECACUANHA.**—The supply of *Rio* root consisted of 52 bales, including some very ordinary damaged and woody "pickings." Altogether 29 bales sold at from 6s. to 6s. 3d. per lb. according to quality. For good thin sound root 6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d. per lb. is asked. Four packages only of *Cartagena* were offered and sold at from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per lb.

**JALAP.**—Somewhat more freely offered and dull of sale. The two parcels at auction aggregated 65 bales, but only a few lots sold. A parcel of 11 bales, slightly wormy *Vera*



Cruz sold cheaply at 5½d. per lb.; another of 15 bales fair, partly small unworked ditto, was bought in at 6¾d. per lb. The remainder consisted of fair unworked root, which was bought in at 7½d. per lb.

KINO.—At auction 3 cases (total 205 lbs.) of red *Zambesi* gum, which have been repeatedly offered, were again bought in at from 6s. 6d. to 8s. per lb. Of 5 small tins (7 to 14 lbs. each) of good genuine *Cochin* grains, 2 sold at 15s. per lb., showing how firm the market really is.

KOLA.—Barely steady. Four bags good bright bold West Indian realised 6d. per lb. at auction to-day. Seven bags small dry fair African kolas were bought in at 4d. to 5d. per lb. Another parcel of 20 bags was bought in, fair bright washed, at 4d. to 6d. per lb.

LIME-JUICE.—Twelve barrels *Concentrated juice*, from Dominica, were sold at auction at 10l. 15s. per pipe.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—The 48 bales fair decorticated "new-crop" Russian liquorice-root which were bought in at 35s. per cwt. at the last drug-sales, were again placed on auction. They were bought in at 37s. 6d. per cwt., the owner still standing out for 35s. as the price.

MENTHOL.—Firm. Sales have been made at 7s. 3d. per lb. on the spot for fair brands and qualities, and we understand that 7s. 6d. per lb. has been paid for delivery up to the end of January. From Japan an advance of fully 3d. per lb. is cabled, the first hand price for October-December shipment being now 8s. per lb. c.i.f. terms. But this is above the London figures, and no business can be done at the quotation. At auction two cases rather damp crystals of greyish tint were offered "without reserve" and sold rasher cheaply at 6s. 5d. per lb.

MUSK.—At the auctions the supply was small, for though there is a good stock in the warehouse, holders do not care to bring it out at present. Of *Tonquin pods*, first pile, 3 tins were shown. Small to bold fine pods, blue and brown skin, several broken and unsightly, were bought in at 77s. 6d. per oz. Small to bold, well trimmed, dry, thin, grey skin pods at 74s. per oz., and one tin common dark skinny and very damp pods sold at the full price of 40s. per oz. Of third-pile pods there were 5 caddies. Small to bold, well trimmed, thin skin, very damp, was bought in at 46s. per oz. Small to bold, "old-fashioned" top and underskin, badly trimmed, at 27s. per oz.; and blue and brown skin, partly broken, very damp, at 45s. per oz. For old-fashioned, small to bold, very damp, a bid of 17s. 6d. per oz. was rejected.

MYRRH.—Of 120 packages offered to-day only 12 sold: good clean coarse sifted at 41s., siftings at 26s., and dusty blocky pickings at 8s. per cwt. Two packages small dusty *Aden*, picked, realised 80s. per cwt. Bright bold picked is held for 90s.

OIL (CASTOR).—Very firmly held. First pale quality *East Indian* oil has been sold privately at 4½d. per lb.; seconds are held for 3¾d. per lb. At auction 40 cases, slightly tinged first quality Calcutta, were bought in at 4½d. per lb.; and 40 cases yellow seconds at 3¾d. per lb.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—*Star-anise* oil was not offered at to-day's auctions. Privately the market is rather easier. The new crop is now coming in, and there seem to be several weak holders. For shipment, October-November, the quotations run from 7s. 7d. to 8s. per lb., c.i.f. *Cassia oil* is fairly steady privately, and from China the cable quotations are very high; 6s. per lb., c.i.f. terms for 80 to 85 per cent. oil. At to-day's auctions, however, a considerable quantity of the oil was "slaughtered," at fully 6d. per lb. below the market rates. Twenty-five cases were offered "without reserve." Ten of these (83-per-cent. aldehyde) sold at 5s. 7d., a few lots realising 5s. 3d. per lb.; five (60-per-cent. aldehyde) realised from 4s. 9d. rising to 5s. per lb.; five ditto sold privately; five (70 to 75-per-cent.) sold at from 5s. 2d. down to 5s. 1d. per lb. Of *Cinnamon-leaf oil* 7 cases of 36 bottles each, from Colombo, were bought in at 4d. per oz., a bid of 3d. per oz. being refused. A case of "*Cinnamon*" oil, fair colour, but poor aroma, realised 1s. 4d. per oz., and another lot brought 1s. 2d. per oz. Other lots, aggregating 11 cases, were bought in at 5d. to 6d. per oz. Thirty-six bottles of *Herring's croton oil* were bought in at 3d. per oz. *Lime oil* (distilled W.I.) is plentiful. At auction 23 cases

were offered, but 10 of these were reported to have been sold privately. Three of the remainder were bought in at about 3s. 9d. per lb., and the rest sold at 3s. 3d. per lb.—a decline of 4d. per lb. Two cases fair West Indian *Oil of bay* were bought in at 9s. per lb. For one of these a bid of 5s. was refused. *Rose oil*: Good E.I. rose oil is scarce. Two coppers of fair appearance from Bombay were offered and bought in at 4d. per oz. Five cases fair brown Fisher's *Patchouly oil* of 12 bottles each were bought in at 1s. 3d. per oz., and 5 cases D. & O. *Peppermint oil* of 18 bottles each at 3s. per lb. Two cases of Munoz *Ylang-ylang*, also offered "without reserve" and sold at 11d. to 1s. per oz. Six cases fair *Nutmeg oil*, imported via U.S.A., were bought in at 3d. per oz. Of *Oil of lemon* 6 coppers of low quality, smelling strongly of turpentine, were offered "without reserve" and sold at 2s. per lb. Another parcel of 4 cases "turpy" lemon oil sold at the low figure of 1s. 9d. per lb. American peppermint oil (HGH) is a shade firmer. At any rate, it would be difficult to buy now at the price of 5s. 9d. per lb. to arrive, at which there were several free sellers recently. Japanese oil is very firm, dementholised being quoted 3d. dearer—viz., at 4s. per lb. c.i.f., October-November shipment "first-hand"; on the spot business has been done at 3s. 4½d. per lb., but 3s. 6d. per lb. is now required. The low rates of American bulk oil prevent the price of Japanese oil from rising, as it probably would but for this competition. With regard to Japanese peppermint oil we have a report dated "Yokohama, September 22," stating that the very heavy rains that had fallen during September, and the typhoons, succeeded by inundations, that had visited the country, had made the prospects of the crop in the principal growing district (Yonezawa) very unsatisfactory. The plants had been seriously damaged, and the total crop (the first and second cut) was estimated to yield only from 45,000 to 50,000 cattiees (of 1½ lb. each), against 120,000 cattiees last year. The crop in the Bingo-Bitchin district will also be very small. *Citronella oil* continues to advance. On the spot 1s. 6d. per lb. is asked, and for arrival 1s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f., has been paid for drums, December-March shipment. There are buyers at that figure for December-January steamer shipment.

OPIMUM.—*Turkish* opium continues to show a very firm market, although the transactions have been much smaller this week than last. *Soft-shipping* grades of good to fine quality are held for 11s. to 11s. 6d. per lb., seconds at 9s. to 10s., good to fine *Smyrna* at 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d., *Druggists' seconds* at 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per lb. *Persian* opium of fine quality has realised 10s. per lb.; ordinary to fair is quoted at 9s. to 9s. 6d. per lb.

ORANGE PEEL.—The London stock of this commodity is said to have been much reduced lately and to be now considerably below the average of the present season, at any rate so far as first-hand holders are concerned. Twelve packages fair thin strips from Malta were bought in at 5½d. to 7d. per lb. Other parcels of 26 packages from Malta and Tripoli were also bought in at up to 9d. per lb. for fair quality.

ORRIS.—Neglected at auction. 52 bags mixed root from Leghorn were offered, but all bought in at 43s. for yellowish to fair small; 40s. for dull darkish; and at 50s. per cwt. for small palish grey. Two bales *Mogador*, brown to fair palish quality, sold at 28s. 6d. per cwt. 140 packages have arrived per *Clymene* from Palermo.

PATCHOULY.—A parcel of fair brown partly dusty leaves from Penang was bought in at 3½d. per lb.

PUMICE STONE.—Ten barrels of pumice in bricks were offered "without reserve" to defray freight and charges. No bid was made for them, however.

QUININE.—On Monday of this week Messrs. *Howards & Sons* established a new scale of prices for their quinine salts. Their rates for 1,000-oz. lots of sulphate are now as follows:—

In ...	100-oz. tins	25-oz. tins	4-oz. bottles
Per oz.	1s. 3d.	1s. 3½d.	1s. 4d.
In ...	1-oz. vials	½-oz. vials	¼-oz. vials
Per oz.	1s. 5d.	1s. 6d.	1s. 7½d.

Smaller wholesale quantities, 1d. per oz. extra. The principal preparations other than sulphate are quoted as follows



(in 1-oz. vials):—pure quinine, 2s. 1½d.; arseniate, benzoate, and citrate, 2s.; salicylate, hydrobromate, and hydrochlorate, 1s. 11½d.; hydroposphate, 3s. 4d.; valerianate, 2s. 2d.; phosphate, 2s. 0½d.; and tannate, 1s. 3d. per oz. At auction 5,000 oz. of *Brunswick* quinine in bulk were offered and bought in at 1s. 3d. per oz. The *Auerbach* agents are offering to-day at 1s. 2d. per oz., which is rather lower. A parcel of 2,000 oz. of *Auerbach* quinine in 100-oz. tins was bought in at 1s. 2d. per oz. to-day.

**QUICKSILVER.**—On Tuesday the principal importers advanced their quotations by 5s. per bottle—viz., from 6l. 15s. to 7l. per bottle. Second-hand holders are offering at 6l. 19s. per bottle.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Fine *Grey Jamaica* root remains extremely scarce; there are at present only about 10 bales of this kind in first-hand. Good *Lima-Jamaica* is also scarce. At auction the supply consisted chiefly of ordinary qualities, although there was some fair *Red Jamaica*. The following are the details of the sale:—*Grey Jamaica*: Four bales damaged root were bought in at 2s. per lb., a bid of 1s. 8d. per lb. being refused. Fourteen bales were mostly bought in at 2s. 1d. for sound, while damaged quality sold at 1s. 4d. per lb. Of 6 bales *Red (native) Jamaica*, 2 sold at 1s. per lb. for fair bright. Dull to fair native quality was bought in at 1s. per lb. Two others, damaged, but of good bright colour, sold at 1s. 1d. per lb. Of 12 bales damaged chumpy *Lima*, 5 sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for fair, and 10d. per lb. for common, quality, which shows a slightly easier market.

**SEEDS (VARIOUS).**—*Annatto-seed* of good quality is scarce and in demand at 3½d. per lb. for good quality. At auction to-day one parcel of fair bright quality was bought in at 4d. per lb. Chinese *Star-anise* seed quiet at 85s. to 87s. 6d. per cwt. nominally. At auction 28 cases genuine but rather broken, of good aroma, were bought in at 90s. to 92s. 6d. per cwt. Fifty bags fair *Anise*, from Marseilles, poor flavour, were bought in at 19s. per cwt. Ten bags fair Syrian were bought in at 25s. per cwt., and 40 bags fair Russian at 21s. per cwt. Twenty bags clean *Fennel-seed*, imported last year from Königsberg, were bought in at 21s. per cwt.

**SENEGA.**—At auction 23 bales of fair quality and aroma rather chumpy mixed, were offered and bought in at 1s. 4d. per lb.

**SENNA.**—At auction to-day the moderate quantity of 562 bales *Tinnevely* leaves was offered. One of the brokers, before beginning his sales, announced that the arrivals of new-crop leaves were decreasing, and that he expected to have only 100 bales on offer at the next sales. There were evidently large orders in the hands of the dealers, and every lot was keenly competed for, American buyers being particularly active. Practically the whole of the supply sold at an advance of fully ½d. per lb. on the last auction rates, fine bold green leaf realising up to 7½d. per lb.; good ditto, 4½d. to 5½d.; fair medium greenish, 3d. to 4½d.; ordinary small and yellowish mixed, 2d. to 3d.; common rubbish, from 1½d. down to ¾d. per lb. The stock of *Alexandrian* senna is heavy, but the demand continues to drag, although holders are disposed to make concessions. Fair picked leaf is quoted at 7½d. to 8d.; broken at 4½d. to 5d.; sorts at 3d. to 4½d. per lb. Pods plentiful at 4½d. to 5d. per lb. At auction several parcels were shown. One of 8 packages fair, bright green leaf realised 6d.; common, 3½d. per lb., which was very cheap. A box of fair, partly stalky *Mocca* senna, from Aden, realised 1d. per lb. Twenty-one packages picked *Alexandrian* senna were offered "without reserve" and sold at low prices: nice bright leaf in cases at 4½d. to 5d. per lb.; siftings at 3d. per lb.; pale pods at 4½d. per lb.

**SUGAR OF MILK.**—American sugar of milk was advanced, not reduced, in price last week, from 60s. to 65s. per cwt.

**TAMARINDS** remain quite neglected. There was a fair supply of West Indian fruit at auction. Five barrels fair *Barbados* realised 8s. 6d. per cwt. Twelve half-barrels *Antigua* sold cheaply at 7s. 6d. per cwt.

**TONCA BEANS.**—A large proportion of the Tonca beans exported from Venezuela is not shipped to the United States direct, but is forwarded to the island of Trinidad to be cured. The collector of Customs of Trinidad states that in 1896, 130,985l. worth of Tonca beans were imported into the

island, and that 11,000 gallons of rum were used in curing them. Nearly the whole of the supply was sent on to the States. At auction to-day, 7 cases dull *Pará* beans were bought in at 1s. 9d. per lb.

**WAX (BEES)** was in large supply at to-day's auctions but met with little demand. 692 packages *Madagascar* were offered, of which about 76 sold at from 5l. 7s. 6d. to 5l. 17s. 6d. for dark wormy to good brown quality. Forty-one packages *Jamaica* were bought in at 7l. 10s. per cwt., no bids being made. *Spanish*, of fair quality, is held for 6l. 10s.; *Australian*, of fair colours, 6l. 15s.; *Italian* at 7l. 10s., for good yellow to fair. One package *Mozambique*, of fair quality, sold at 6l. per cwt., and *Zanzibar* of good colour at 5l. 17s. 6d. Bleached *Caleutta* wax was in fair supply, but nothing sold at auction. For a lot of low brown dark quality 10s. was bid—then 11s.; but the lot was taken out. Dull grey *Caleutta* is held for 6l. 10s. per cwt.

**WAX (JAPAN).**—Dull of sale at 40s. per cwt. on the spot for good pale squares. For shipment the price is 37s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f., October-December, but there are no buyers.

### Heavy Chemicals.

There are no new features of special importance to report this week in connection with the heavy-chemical market. A steady business is passing both for prompt and forward, whilst shipments are quite up to the average for the time of the year. Reports from the Tyne and the Clyde are fairly satisfactory, and the Lancashire market maintains a steady tone. Home consumers, especially paper makers and glass-makers, are busier, and a better demand for miscellaneous products from dyers and calico-printers also exists. Prices all round are fairly well maintained. *Bleaching-powder* is moving more freely, and prices are firm. *Caustic soda* remains firm and unchanged, highest strengths being in good request. *Recovered sulphur* scarce. *Saltcake* has a somewhat firmer tone, and is now quoted 19s., free on rails in bulk. *Sulphate of copper* remains unchanged at last week's quotations, but demand is easing off a little, and there is a tendency towards a slight reduction. *Soda crystals* and *Soda ash* are still in rather short supply. On account of an advance in freights *American brown acetate of lime* is now quoted higher, and stands at 5l. 7s. 6d. to 5l. 10s., c.i.f. *Welsh* is very scarce, and there is little offering. *Sulphate of ammonia* has advanced again, owing to heavier demand. Quotations Hull, London, and Leith now stand at 8. 5s., and Beckton terms, prompt, are 8l. Business in this product for forward delivery is, however, rather slack, buyers holding back in expectation of better terms. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 600 tons. *Bencols* are fairly steady: 90-per-cent., 2s.; November-December, 1s. 11d.; and 50-per-cent., 2s. *Aniline oil* and *Salt* are firm at 7d. for this year's delivery, but the lower figure of 6½d. is quoted for next year. *Carbolic acids* rather firmer. *Cottonseed* and *Linseed cakes* maintain a steady tone, and are in moderately good demand; best makes of the former are quoted 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 5s., and the latter, 95-per-cent. pure, 7l. 12s. 6d. to 7l. 15s. *Naphthas* steady. *Nitrate of soda* a trifle firmer: refined, 7s. 7½d.; ordinary, 7s. 4½d.

### The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on October 28, reports that in *Castor oil* there has been a weaker tendency owing to somewhat large arrivals, and though the position according to statistics is strong, holders have shown more disposition to meet the views of buyers, good seconds *Caleutta* selling at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb., while first pressure *French* is still held for 3½d. per lb., and second pressure at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. *Olive oils* of the lower grades are very firmly held in view of the strong reports regarding the better qualities. *Russian aniseed* is firmly held for 20s. per cwt. *Fennugreek seed* is scarce, and holders of the few parcels on hand ask 10s. 6d. per cwt. for *Alexandrian*, while *Bombay* is worth about 11s. to 12s. per cwt. *Kola-nuts* are selling steadily at 2½d. to 3½d. per lb. according to quality and quantity. *Canaryseed* is a shade easier on the week. Although sales have been made at 27s. 6d. per qr. for fine bright *Turkish* there are signs that a lower price would now



be taken. In *Gum arabie*, sorts are sparingly offered, but still meet with very little attention, though there are sellers of fair hard at 65s. to 70s. without much business passing. Medium grades are quiet, prices asked being on the parity of the present quotation for *Soudan* gums, and these figures seem to be unattractive at present. There has been considerably more movement in *Honey* during the week, sales of *Chilian* being reported at slightly hardening prices for all grades—especially the lower qualities. A sale of about 150 cases mixed quality *Californian* was made at 22s. 6d. per cwt. *African ginger*, after giving way slightly, is again on the upward move, sales being recorded in 50 bag lots at 17s. 6d. cwt. *Beeswax* is steady at 6l. 15s. to 7l. 10s. for *Chilian* according to grades. A parcel of over one hundred bales of *Gambia* changed hands at 6l. per cwt. *Quillaia-bark* is still moving at higher values; 28l. is asked for the very small parcel available.

#### Hamburg Drug-market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on October 26:—Our drug-market is quiet and does not show much business. *Agar-agar* for spot delivery is firm at 275m. per 100 kilos. *Cape aloes* unchanged at 48m. per 100 kilos. *Balsam Peru* steady, at 15½m. per kilo. *Balsam tolu* quiet at 4½m. per kilo. *Citric acid* also quiet at 250m. per 100 kilos. *Anise* (Russian) is quoted to-day 41m. per 100 kilos. for new crop. *Borax* remains quiet at 30½c. 31m. per 100 kilos. *Chlorate of potash* easier 70m. per 100 kilos. *Ergot of rye* is steady, prices being firm at 150m. to 170m. per 100 kilos, according to quality. *Menthol* is firmer, spot being held for 15½m. per kilo., while 20m. per kilo. is asked for shipment. *Kola-nuts* of ordinary quality offer at 55m. per 100 kilos., sound nuts at 65m. per 100 kilos. *Quillaia* is very scarce and little or none offering for spot delivery. *Maltese eumin-seed* is quoted 38m to 40m. per 100 kilos. *Mogador coriander-seed* at 14½m. per 100 kilos. *Quinine* steady, 39 to 40m. per kilo being asked by some factories. *Star anise* is unchanged at 182½m. per 100 kilos. *Spermaceti* offers at 295m. per 100 kilos. *Russian anise-oil*, 15½m. per kilo. *Star-anise oil*, 17½m. per kilo. *Peppermint oil* HGH, 5½m. per lb., Japan oil, 7m. per kilo. *Cassia, clove, and Citronella oils* are firm. *Cod-liver oil* is quiet at 68m. to 70m. per barrel. *Castor oil* is steady, first pressing spot delivery being quoted at 63m. per 100 kilos. *Refined camphor* is firmer at 265m. per 100 kilos. *Japan wax* is a little cheaper at 79 to 78m. per 100 kilos. *Carnauba wax*, grey, offers at 80m., fine yellow, at 140m. per 100 kilos.

#### The Amsterdam Cinchona-market.

The 6,128 packages of Java cinchona to be offered for sale at Amsterdam on November 7 next contain the equivalent of 29,500 kilos. of sulphate of quinine, of which 28,534 kilos. are represented by the manufacturers' and 966 kilos. by the druggists' barks. This is an average of 5.47 per cent. for the former. The tone of the market remains very firm, and a further advance is thought probable.

#### The Bergen Cod-liver Oil Market.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 23 that a firmer tone prevails, as the stocks are now concentrated in the hands of the large exporters. Best *Lofoten* non-congealing oil is now offering at 67s. per barrel, f.o.b. terms. The exports from Bergen up to date are 8,489 barrels, against 4,658 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

#### The Smyrna Opium-market.

Our Smyrna correspondent writes on October 16:—"The opium-market has been quiet this week until October 14, when about 35 cases changed hands at a reduction in price of about 2d. per lb.—viz., 5 cases new *Opium for the Dutch Indies* at a parity of 8s. 1d., 6 cases *Yerli tale quale* at that of 7s. 10d., 24 cases *Karahissar tale quale* at that of 7s. 5d. to 7s. 6d., and 2 cases current tale quale at that of 7s. 4d. per lb., f.o.b. The whole of this was bought for export. The market closes steady, with further buyers at the prices quoted. The arrivals have been 2,650 cases, against 1,560 cases at the corresponding time of 1896."

AN Ohio chewing-gum manufacturer claims to sell 13½ miles a day of one brand of his gums, and states that in ten years the sales have been 50,900 miles.

## A Salvage Sale.

ON Tuesday afternoon Messrs. Toplis & Harding offered for sale in Mincing Lane the salvage goods recovered from the recent fire that destroyed Messrs. Davy, Hill & Co.'s warehouse in Southwark Street. The audience differed considerably from that generally met with at the drug-sales. It was—outwardly, at least—much less respectable, cloth caps being more numerous than tall hats, and woollen comforters than high starched collars. A little knot of London wholesale druggists gave an air of gentility to a portion of the room, and in the background a lady, in a striking hat, watched the proceedings with interest, probably attracted by the notorious craze of her sex for bargain sales. She abstained from buying, however, probably because there were no bargains. The prices paid throughout the auction were very high, and competition was keen. In some instances chemicals in damaged packages actually sold at higher rates than they could have been bought for, in sound condition, in the open market. Several of the partners in the burnt-out firm were present, and they purchased back a fair proportion of their own goods. The lots were put together in a rather peculiar fashion, and packages of poisons were liberally sprinkled through the catalogue. In one case, two barrels catalogued as "caramel" were understood to contain "calomel," and it may be presumed that the gentleman who secured them at the "caramel" price rejoiced accordingly. We have not space to give more than a few instances of the prices realised:—

	£	s.	d.
45 dozen medicated tooth-powder boxes, 7½ dozen ointment-pots, and a quantity of pill-boxes ...	1	1	0
288 doz. assorted scent-bottles, together ...	59	5	0
8 doz. Alcock's plasters (soiled) ...	1	10	0
24 four-kilo. jars citric acid ...	11	5	0
140 lbs. Bayer's phenacetin ...	19	0	0
2 cwt. permang. potass., large crystals ...	6	0	0
3 doz. tins Jeyes' powder, 6 doz. ditto fluid, and 10 tins other disinfectants ...	2	6	0
155 oz. Howards' quinine in bottles of various sizes, per oz. ...	0	1	2
15 bottles Bosisto's and 67 packages "various" oil of eucalyptus ...	8	0	0
7 10-lb. bottles pot. iodide ...	40	0	0
2 25-oz. tins Zimmer's cocaine, per oz. ...	0	7	6
3 25-oz. tins Knoll's cocaine, per oz. ...	0	7	3
22 100-oz. tins Brunswick quinine, per oz. ...	0	1	1
41 100-oz. tins Böhringer's quinine, per oz. ...	0	1	0
7 coppers Rouse-Bertrand's extraits, various ...	14	0	0
8 10-lb. tins do. (triple) ...	14	0	0
180 packages honey ...	3	5	0
17½ doz. 1-lb tins vaseline ...	7	0	0
1 pipe linseed oil ...	8	10	0
5 20-gall. jars olive oil ...	23	10	0
12 barrels Thesen's cod-liver oil and 2 ditto ullage ...	40	0	0

The entire sale (191 lots) realised about 1,550l.

WE have to acknowledge from the Edison & Swan United Electric Light Company (Limited) a beautifully-produced pamphlet giving portraits of Messrs. Edison and Swan, the famous inventors, and of Mr. J. S. Forbes, the chairman, and Major Flood Page, the manager, of the company, together with a brief but interesting little sketch of the history of electric lighting. It appears that the first outdoor exhibition of the electric light was made in Trafalgar Square on December 2, 1848. At that time the fuel necessary for its production was zinc, and this was far too costly to allow of its commercial introduction. Faraday led the way to this consummation by his discovery of the principle of generating electric current by mechanical power. This led to the invention of the dynamo, which rendered the arc light for outdoor lighting possible. Then Messrs. Edison and Swan independently and simultaneously constructed the incandescent lamp, which in its many modern forms is illustrated in this pamphlet.





*In writing letters for publication, correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters, with or without a nom-de-plume, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer. Queries should be written on separate pieces of paper, and the regulations printed under the sections to which they apply should be strictly observed.*

**Notice to Correspondents.**

**Mr. Beecham Replies.**

SIR,—I was well aware, when I stepped into the breach to turn selling at cost into a small profit, I was laying myself open to a wordy war; still I am prepared to see the matter through, and as the vexed question of cutting has continually cropped up during the last twenty years, I should very much like to see the question as regards cutting patent medicines thoroughly thrashed out. It was my anxiety to see everyone who handled my pills have a profit, which induced me to drop to 5*l.* parcels, and two or three small buyers can join in a 5*l.* parcel, so buying at the same prices as the largest buyers. Mr. Glyn-Jones and others make a point of "living profits." Now, these vary according to the views of the individual. One chemist, who rules the prices of a Midland town, writes, under date October 20, "I am quite satisfied with the profit I make on your pills; my prices are 7½*d.*, 10½*d.*, and 2*s.* 3*d.*" It is plain that 10 per cent. on an article of quick turnover is better than 25 per cent. or more on a thing that is seldom asked for. I must point out to Mr. Glyn-Jones that I did not say I had arranged an agreement at Dundee, and, in regard to this, I will simply quote from another letter I have had from the good old firm of chemists in that town, that "when we got the prices mentioned—8½*d.*, 10½*d.*, and 2*s.* 3*d.*—arranged, we only went to those who we knew cut the prices. We did not think it necessary to go to the chemists who we knew did not, and never had, cut below the prices mentioned." The same explanation holds good for the Southampton, Totton, Romsey, and Andover agreement; it was not thought likely any chemist would be anxious to sell at cost after a 10-per-cent. profit had been arranged, and this step relieved them of the annoyance of being told by customers they could buy the pills cheaper at a rival's. Now, while Mr. Glyn-Jones has been running his head against the stone walls of Southampton and bombarding Dundee with his postcards, I have quietly arranged a mutual agreement among all the cutters of Woolwich and Plumstead not to sell below 7½*d.*, 10½*d.*, and 2*s.* 3*d.*, and I sent my representative there at the request of a member of the P.A.T.A., who saw in my scheme a chance of improving his position. Without solicitation on my part the Timothy White Company, who have so many branches in Hants, Sussex and the Isle of Wight, have just sent me word that they are advancing their cut prices of my pills to accord with the International Tea Company, and I am sure this news will please many of the smaller buyers in that district. Of course I have read Mr. Day's trenchant letter, and your readers must see that had I put my pills on the protected list they would have been sold at cut prices just the same, and what a ridiculous position I should now be in! The fact is obvious, you cannot fix prices by coercion so long as there are firms who refuse to be coerced, as ways and means will be found for buying all the goods such firms want and selling them at what prices they like, and it occurs to me that it is possibly the foresight of the large majority of dealers who have declined to join the P.A.T.A. which is the real reason of their not sending in their subscriptions, as they could not see any likelihood of its bettering their position. I am now afraid that those who did look to the P.A.T.A. for salvation will, by the facts which Mr. Glyn Jones's wild threats of "lovely" retaliation have brought to light, cause them to wonder where this gentleman is leading them to. It is the "cutter" in every town and in every trade who fixes the prices, unless a mutual agreement is in force. Does not every member of the P.A.T.A. and his wife buy in the cheapest market, and is not the lowest tender accepted when

the house wants painting without inquiry as to "living profits"?

To conclude, I have been charged by Mr. Glyn Jones and "some half-dozen prominent chemists" who in solemn conclave assembled on October 19 at Southampton, with "misleading." This I resent, and as I prefer that the whole of the trade shall judge of my *bona fides* in this matter, I intend having all the correspondence, when it is supposed to be closed, reprinted in pamphlet form and sent to every retailer whose address is given in the "Directory of Chemists and Druggists."

Yours truly,

St. Helens, October 26.

THOMAS BEECHAM.

P.S.—It may not be quite clear that the prices spoken of are minimum; if higher can be mutually agreed upon so much the better, but the greater the profit the less chance of the agreed price being maintained.

**The Alleged Failure of the P.A.T.A.**

SIR,—Mr. Day's letter in your last issue affords a capital example of a triumphant retreat. I did not claim to have discovered any inconsistency in Messrs. Day's action regarding the selling prices of Beecham's pills. On the contrary, the prices fixed were so manifestly against the interest of the ordinary retail chemist, that I considered Messrs. Day's attitude in that matter quite consistent. I did say that the firm in question "had joined a ring to force up prices," and that this afforded an opportunity to their opponents of making capital out of the fact. I repeat that statement with greater emphasis now because we have since proved that out of a score or more Southampton traders only two or three had joined that particular ring. Mr. Day says the game is up. Whose game? Certainly not ours. The main point in Mr. Day's letter is the following statement: "Will Mr. Jones or his supporters be surprised to learn that we are actually at the present time obtaining directly and openly from the manufacturers large quantities of protected (?) goods, notwithstanding that the name of our company is upon Mr. Jones's 'Black list'?" Such is however the case, and in face of this fact who can deny that the "game is up"?

Mr. Day has not told us the whole truth. So far from being surprised, we are amused that Mr. Day should announce the capitulation of so important a position with such a flourish of trumpets. Every proprietor of a P.A.T.A. article has been written to in respect to Mr. Day's "astounding revelations." With three exceptions they have replied, all assuring me in writing that as far as they are concerned Mr. Day's statement is simply untrue. Two of the remaining three have not yet replied, but I have good reason to believe they will reply as the others have done. The only case where Messrs. Day have been supplied by the manufacturers is that of the proprietors of Munyon's remedies. They have supplied Messrs. Day upon that firm agreeing not to sell below face-value—in other words, all that Mr. Day's proud boast amounts to is that his firm have either been compelled or coerced into selling these goods at P.A.T.A. prices. Mr. Day tells us he is prepared to enter into arrangements with the P.A.T.A. proprietors to maintain their various prices, but only in order to defeat the P.A.T.A. Such diplomacy is excellent, no doubt; but Mr. Day will hardly claim to be the only man connected with the drug-trade who is capable of seeing a hole through a ladder. I think in this case the laugh is with us, for if Mr. Day does not already know it, I will now tell him that one of the ways by which the P.A.T.A. secures its objects is by arranging for these very individual agreements; indeed, for months past firms, on what Mr. Day calls our "black list," have been freely supplied by our various proprietors, provided in each case they gave an individual agreement to the particular proprietors to maintain P.A.T.A. prices, precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies. We are not anxious to compel firms to recognise the P.A.T.A. Our object is the maintenance of protected profits, and if Messrs. Day prefer signing forty agreements instead of one, well and good, but they must excuse our looking, as a good joke, upon their boast that in coming to such terms they are defeating the P.A.T.A. Mr. Day talks of the great stocks of P.A.T.A. articles held by his firm. We have an ever-increasing army of friends who buy for us from Messrs. Day's establishments any P.A.T.A. articles which they offer below minimum



prices. We receive daily reports of their progress, and I can only say that if Messrs. Day were out of stock of all the goods they list as often as they are without P.A.T.A. articles their business would soon be ruined. Mr. Day will surely be interested to know that through our organised system of buying few of his undersold P.A.T.A. articles reach his ordinary customers. They are bought in by us. Mr. Day cannot truthfully deny that he has paid more for protected articles than he sells them at. We have irrefutable evidence that his firm has bought P.A.T.A. articles at full minimum retail prices from the trade. We have goods which came from Messrs. Day's branches bearing other chemists' stamps and labels still on the packages. We never said we would prevent Mr. Day getting goods at retail prices, and so long as he is prepared to lose money on P.A.T.A. articles so long will we supply him with customers for these goods. Few chemists will grudge him this trade.

Despite anything Mr. Day says to the contrary, the leaders of the movement are proud of the results of our two years' work. We have succeeded beyond our own expectations, and there is little doubt also beyond Mr. Day's estimate. His statement that we represent quite an insignificant portion of the trade is not true, and I think I can convince any proprietor who will go through our books that our 2,700 members do more business between them in medicinal proprietary articles than do the rest of the trade. The list of articles and the roll of members are being added to weekly, the amount of attention given by all sections of the trade to the P.A.T.A. increases daily, and a letter in your columns from Mr. Day always brings us additional members. Why, even Mr. Day has been driven to such dreadful extremities that in order to defeat an organisation which he says is on its last legs, he is prepared to take of that profit, which he apparently abhors, no less than 33 per cent. on Munyon's remedies. If Mr. Day is in a position to defy the movement, why does he put forth such strenuous efforts to fight it? Why directly appeal so frantically to proprietors imploring them not to put their articles on our list? He is too good a business man to waste money, time, energies, and *C. & D.* space in fighting a shadow—an organised sham, as he calls it. If he is able to get all the goods he wants, why does he not go on getting them, underselling them, and quietly laugh at the P.A.T.A.? Instead of this, he publicly announces his readiness to except an evil, though he thinks it is the lesser of two evils—namely, "to agree directly with proprietors, though he objects to their terms." It is a matter of the least importance to the trade as to whom he chooses to recognise, whether the individual proprietors or the P.A.T.A. executive, so long as he maintains the prices. I can assure Mr. Day that, so far from our fight being over, we have hardly commenced; though I think the majority of the trade will agree that we have had some fairly effective skirmishes, even with so powerful an opponent as Mr. Day.

Yours respectfully,

Stonecutter Street, E.C., W. S. GLYN-JONES.  
October 27.

#### Profits on Proprietaries.

SIR.—Your correspondent at Fraserburgh reminds me of the Wilful Bee in Gilbert's comic opera:—

Oh! a pitiful sight it was to see  
A respectable, elderly, high-class bee,  
Who kicked the beam at sixteen stone,  
Doing his best to swarm alone.

I must confess, I am not in the enviable position he claims to be in. I am very reluctantly compelled to let the limited companies fix my prices for me, and I have to sell at those prices whether I like it or not. It is only by combination and the P.A.T.A. that we can have a voice in fixing our prices. The companies are too strong for us to fight single-handed.

Yours truly,

XYLEM. (251/2.)

SIR.—The friends of the P.A.T.A. ought to be very much obliged to Mr. Day for his unsolicited testimonial to the life, energy, usefulness, and success of the Association.

Mr. Day is too astute to waste such a double broadside on a sinking wreck. It is only a real live fighting ship which requires such a bombardment as this. Yours sincerely,

The West End Pharmacy, F. ADAM.  
33 Pigott Street, Edgbaston, October 23.

SIR,—I hope you will do me the favour to insert the enclosed.

The action of the cutting-firms in Southampton has called forth, through the P.A.T.A., a severe rebuke to Mr. Beecham (but I think his back is broad enough for this).

As I was acting on behalf of my firm, an explanation may not be out of place. The prices of Beecham's pills in Southampton before the arrangement were 6½d., 9½d., 2s. 1½d.; but I think I am correct in saying not a single chemist has sold at these prices unless he were first told by his customer "I can buy at so-and-so." Is it not true that the majority of chemists here obtain what price they can up to full prices for all patents? Well, with this knowledge, what was the use of asking them to sign? The first chemist I asked gave me a smart rebuff, and said it did not interest him. If through a proprietor the leading cutters in a town arrange a price, the chemists, in my opinion, ought not to grumble.

Suppose Mr. Beecham consulted all the chemists in Southampton as to what price he should fix, the chances are they would say full prices, and the whole thing would have collapsed. If the chemists (six) of Southampton think I should have called a meeting to discuss this matter, they make a mistake. I think I know Southampton chemists better than that. Just consider what was done last week. A meeting (called for 8.30 P.M., chair taken about 10 P.M.) of six chemists, and brought together under what circumstances? First, a special London man present, and, second, the excitement of seeing a brother Pill in difficulty. What chance should I have had of bringing together a body of chemists after this?

No; the facts are, while the P.A.T.A. is going to raise prices, we have done it through Mr. Beecham, although, perhaps, not up to the standard the chemists wish. However, credit, in our opinion, is due to the P.A.T.A. for bringing about better prices, even if not in quite the way they want. It would be interesting to know how many chemists in Southampton have sent their paltry 5s. to its funds although glad enough to avail themselves of benefits accruing.

Yours truly,

1 and 2 Strand, East Street, F. B. WRIE, JUN.  
Southampton, October 26. (Wrie & Co.)

#### Profits on Patents.

SIR.—We notice in one of your recent issues particulars of Mr. Thomas Beecham's successful efforts to bring the patent-medicine trade in Southampton to agree as to what price shall prevail in that town for Beecham's pills. We think this a very happy idea of Mr. Beecham's, and one which should be adopted in all places if the dealers could be got to agree upon a price.

We have been severely commented upon by your good selves and a number of chemists for the action we took in regard to the Bradford Association, in which we thought then, and still think, we were perfectly justified. We do not believe that a manufacturer has any right whatever to attempt to control the price of an article he sells after it leaves his hands; but we do believe in a cheerful co-operation with the wishes of the majority, and that is what Mr. Beecham has effected in Southampton. The dealers who had bought Beecham's pills were willing to agree to sell them at a certain price. This is quite right, and we shall always do all we can to facilitate dealers who desire to act in this way, as such an arrangement is correct from a commercial point of view, and will undoubtedly be endorsed by a number of manufacturers, who, with ourselves, seriously object to coercion after the goods become the property of someone else.

Yours very truly,

P.P. THE CHARLES A. VOGELER COMPANY,  
WILLIAM E. GEDDES (Manager).

Farringdon Road, E.C., October 21.

#### Cutting.

SIR.—Once for all I beg to say to Sanitas Company, Beecham, and every other proprietor of articles now sold by chemists—or that ever will be sold by them—that I consider they should put their articles on the P.A.T.A. list, and not allow them to be sold less than their face value. Let Days' Drug Company, and every other company, take for their motto, "The Golden Rule!" Yours truly,

Lewes, October 22. W. T. MARTIN. 7



## The P.A.T.A.

SIR,—From the correspondence published chemists appear to be under the impression that the right of retailing patent medicines belongs entirely to them. They forget that booksellers were the first to sell these articles, and that at present chemists only sell about one-third of the patents consumed. If, therefore, the P.A.T.A. is to be a success, it must embrace the goodwill of all classes of traders who deal in patents, and I think this is too large an order for any one man—even Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones says “the object of the Association is the securing of living profits, not the prevention of extreme cutting.” At the last Chemists’ Exhibition, the proprietors of Mellin’s food exhibited a placard, “Members of the P.A.T.A.,” with Mr. Jones’s knowledge. I find this food quoted in the London lists at 1s. 8½d., and the minimum cutting-price fixed at 1s. 9d. I think it should be generally known that one of the nineteen provincial chemists who were present at the recent P.A.T.A. dinner was at that time selling Scott’s pills at 10½d., and had been doing so for three months previously with the knowledge and consent of Mr. Jones.

Lastly, it is somewhat amusing to read that “the P.A.T.A. is a fighting Association.” I should dub it “a bragging Association,” for my former offer to forfeit 5% to the Association if Mr. Jones can cut off my supplies of protected articles in six months is still unaccepted.

Yours truly,

RED DRAGON. (252/66.)

SIR,—The correspondence in your journal under the above heading has an engrossing interest, I feel sure, for all, “Majority and Minority.” I much wish, as one of the majority who have not yet sent postal orders for 5s. to Mr. Glyn-Jones, to express through your columns my appreciation of the aims of the P.A.T.A., and of the ability and the energy displayed by its secretary in the pursuit of his self-imposed task. Even if the actions of some of its wholesale members tend to reduce it to “an organised sham,” as Mr. Day says (all the more shame to them!), it is no discredit to Mr. Glyn-Jones. But perhaps Mr. Day is as far misled in this matter as Mr. Beecham in the matter of the Dundee chemists. He is too angry to be taken seriously.

As to the statement that the P.A.T.A. infringes free-trade principles, I agree with Mr. Hinde that it is “bosh and nonsense.” What of the low-price baiting practices which the P.A.T.A. seeks to restrain by legitimate association? It is the prostitution of honourable dealing.

No one will dispute the right your Fraserburgh correspondent claims to give Beecham’s pills at 2d. a box, or, for that matter, to pitch them into the harbour (if the harbour-trustees don’t object); but many call it wrong to sell popular articles at a profit which is not a living-profit, with the object of deluding the public into the belief that one is more worthy of patronage than his neighbour.

P.A.T.A. methods offend Mr. Robertson’s sense of freedom. Mr. Beecham’s suggestion is “not nearly good enough.” I beg to offer him a suggestion: Let Mr. Robertson organise the Fraserburgh chemists to turn their backs on such goods. They have nothing to lose. This may “touch the spot.”

W. SANSTER.

Edinburgh, October 26.

## Day Dreams.

O I am the Pioneer Cutter,  
And the King of Cash-Chemists am I;  
But my sensitive heart it does flutter,  
And I think my digestion’s awry;  
For strange though it seems,  
I am troubled with dreams;  
Or perhaps it’s my conscience so shy—  
Oh my!  
What is good for a conscience that’s shy?  
Last night to my virtuous couch, sir,  
I retired for the sleep of the just  
(For the truth of it all I can vouch, sir,  
For if I told a lie, I would bust!);  
And strange though it seems,  
I was troubled with dreams,  
Of a Stonecutter covered with dust  
(Oh I must  
Kill that Stonecutter covered with dust).

Now It sat Itself down on my chest, sir,  
In a most disagreeable way,  
And It swore It would give me no rest, sir,  
But would haunt me by night and by day;  
And strange though it seem,  
It looked in my dreams  
As if labelled with “P.A.T.A.”  
Oh, I say,  
I do not like that “P.A.T.A.”

W. C.

## The British Pharmaceutical Conference.

SIR,—In the report we sent you, which appeared in last week’s *C. & D.*, of the meeting of the Reception Committee held in Belfast on October 9, there is a printer’s mistake which is seriously misleading.

The last line of the report should read “the Guarantee Fund was close on the amount required,” not “closed on, &c.”

The fund is still open for subscriptions, which will be acknowledged by the Treasurer, Mr. S. Gibson, King Street, Belfast, or by

Yours truly,

J. RANKIN,

R. W. MCKNIGHT,

} Hon. Secs.

Garfield Chambers, Royal Avenue, Belfast,  
October 23.

## P. E. F. P.’s Present Opinion.

The present opinion of P. E. F. P.,

Regarding our Bloomsbury School,

Is not quite the same as it once used to be—

But the man who can’t change is a fool—

And when you’re a Prizeman your duty is clear,

You must crack up your own and at other shows sneer,

And brag of “our talents,” though it looks rather queer,

For outsiders show best as a rule.

W. C. (248/13.)

## Frain’s Female-medicines.

SIR,—Referring to the remarks in your journal of October 23 respecting Madame Frain’s Female Mixture and Pills, we beg to state that we do not keep in stock any of her preparations, and we never have done so.

Yours faithfully,

S. MAW &amp; SON, THOMPSON.

7-12 Aldersgate Street, E.C., October 25.

SIR,—We have, of course, observed your comments anent “Madame Frain,” as well as the very objectionable testimonials reprinted *in extenso* a fortnight since by a medical contemporary. There is no doubt that the preparations, or some of them, named in these testimonials have, for years past, circulated more or less freely throughout “the trade.”—We have ourselves received telegram orders for them, and have in turn repeated such orders by wire to the makers, although we have two or three times refused to quote or advertise the medicines in our catalogue. Since the publication to which we have referred, we have requested the discontinuance of any reference to our firm in connection with the medicine in question, and our instructions have been duly acknowledged. Our objection to deal in preparations or appliances of a Malthusian character is, by this time, pretty generally known.

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

King Edward Street, E.C.

F. NEWBERRY &amp; SONS.

October 26.

SIR,—In your issue of October 23 you call the attention of the trade to circulars issued by one Madame Frain, which state that we stock her preparations. This is untrue, nor are we aware that any one here authorised this woman to use our name in any advertisement. Kindly insert this denial in your next issue.

Yours faithfully,

Clerkenwell Road, E.C.

MAY, ROBERTS &amp; CO.

October 26.

SIR,—Our attention has to-day been called to a paragraph in your newspaper, *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, in which you say that chemists stocking our preparations are liable to a criminal prosecution. We fail to follow you in this, as our remedies are not being sold for any illegal purpose, therefore cannot be criminal. We have been at Hackney Road since 1878, which has apparently escaped your notice



in the circular, which is quite sufficient proof of the way we conduct our business; moreover, we hold written counsels', analysts', and medical men's opinions favourable to our preparations. Trusting that you will kindly insert this in your next issue.

Hackney Road, N.E.

Yours faithfully,

W. BROWN.

October 26. (Professor Brown and Madame Frain.)

#### Tonkin Aniseed Oil *versus* China Aniseed Oil.

SIR.—In your issue of October 16, under the heading of "Adulterated Oil of Star Anise," Mr. J. C. Umney gives details of his analysis of five cases Chinese star-aniseed oil. Their specific gravity at 15° C. was only 0.913 average; their melting-point after solidification only 8.7° C. average. I have since sent to the same analyst one lead canister, taken haphazard out of thirty cases of Tonkin star-aniseed oil, with the following result:—Specific gravity at 15° C. 0.978; melting-point after solidification, 17.3° C. The latter, therefore, is about double in the Tonkin oil as compared with the five cases Chinese oil in question. Mr. Umney adds: "The oil has a high melting-point after solidification . . . physical examination fails to detect any sophistication." Comment is needless.

Yours very truly,

42 Wilson Street, E.C.,

LOUIS SCHLESINGER.

October 21.

### LEGAL QUERIES.

*We do not give legal opinions by post. Information regarding most legal matters in connection with pharmacy will be found in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, and in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," and Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty."*

252/26. *Protector*.—For particulars as to registration of trade-marks, &c., see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

252 12. *Arsenic*.—Is not the question whether you are bound to let the policeman see the poison register, or whether it will suffice to read out to him the names of those to whom poison has been sold on a particular date, a rather unnecessary one? The law does not make either provision; but we should think any chemist would assist the police to the utmost of his ability in any inquiry of the kind they have to make.

251/51. *A. H.*—If your booklet "recommends" a certain medicinal compound for the relief or cure of any disease incident to the human body, that compound becomes liable to medicine-stamp duty. But we do not think the words "try the following" amount to a recommendation. To be quite sure you had better send the booklet and the medicine as put up to Somerset House for opinion.

253/34. *Ajax*.—Yours is a yearly tenancy. You can only leave at the date corresponding with that at which your tenancy commenced, and you must give six months' notice. You must leave the house watertight and windtight, and not damaged inside beyond fair wear and tear.

### MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

*We reply to our subscribers and their employés only: queries must, therefore, be authenticated by the name and address of the subscriber. When more than one query is sent write each on a separate piece*

Notice to Querists.

*of paper. When a sample accompanies a query full particulars regarding the origin and use of the sample must be given, and the name of the querist should be placed on the sample. Queries are not replied to by post.*

236/71. *W. C.*—The sample you send consists of the dried leaves of the ayapana, *Eupatorium triplinerve*, Vahl. (*E. Ayapana*, Vent.) The plant is a slender, glabrous, erect perennial herb or shrub belonging to the natural order *Compositæ*, and native of the valley of the Amazon. It is cultivated in India as well as in the Mauritius, to which it was brought by Capt. Baudin in 1797. The plant was at one time cultivated in the island of Bourbon for the purpose of

drying the leaves, which were sent to France and used as a substitute for tea under the name of ayapana tea. In the Mauritius it was at one time held in great repute for its supposed medicinal properties, and was there considered as an alterative and antiscorbutic. It formerly held a high position as a medicinal plant in India, but its supposed virtues are now exploded. It is, however, still considered by some a good stimulant, tonic, and diaphoretic. In the cholera epidemics in Mauritius in 1854-55 it was extensively used for restoring the warmth of the surface, the languid circulation, &c. In the "Pharmacographia Indica" it is said that ayapana may be compared with chamomile in its effects: it is stimulant and tonic in small doses, and laxative when taken in quantity. The hot infusion is emetic and diaphoretic, and may be given with advantage in the cold stage of ague and in the state of depression which precedes acute inflammatory affections. The infusion may be made with 1 oz. of the herb to a pint of water, and be given in 2 oz. doses every three hours. As an antidote to snake-bites ayapana has been used both internally and externally with alleged success.

239/7. *Coryza*.—We have known the following draught to frequently cut short a Cold in the Head if taken at the commencement of the attack:—

Liq. amm. acet.	...	...	...	3iiss.
Tr. camph. co.	...	...	...	5j.
Glycerin	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	3iss.

Ft. haust. H.s.s.

A camphor inhalation is a useful adjunct to this treatment.

238 21. *Dent*.—**Modelling-wax**.—This is now generally paraffin wax coloured pink with alkanet. It is made into sheets by pouring a thin layer into a suitable vessel, and when set warming the dish, when the layer of wax is readily removable.

241/15. *Inquirer*.—(1) A paste composed mostly of kaolinic clay is generally used in the pottery-trade for making medallions. Kieselguhr is used more for making fireproof bricks for various purposes. (2) **Coca-wine** is made either from the leaves (see DIARY, 1897, page 487) or by adding 6 oz. of miscible fluid extract of coca (1 in 1), or 3 oz. of the "duplex" to a gallon of port. It is sometimes given in combination with quinine, but generally with the object of producing a non-excisable wine.

240/60. *W. C.*—**Dobell's Solution**.—See *C. & D.*, January 30, 1897, page 197.

240/56. *Iodoform*.—**Iodoform Gauze**.—See 1897 DIARY, page 265.

241/22. *Kino*.—**Essence of Celery**:—

Bruised celery-seeds...	...	...	...	5vj.
Rectified spirit	...	...	...	5xx.

Macerate seven days, and filter.

239/51. *Bism. Carb.*—The process for Taking Impressions of Medals you are referring to is that used by printers in stereotyping, papier-mâché being the most convenient to use. The papier-mâché, technically called "flong," is made by pasting together several sheets of paper with a paste (designed to withstand a high temperature without burning) composed of flour, alum and whiting in varying proportions. A sheet of brown paper is first taken, and, after being pasted, blotting-paper is laid on it and well smoothed down, and in its turn pasted over to receive two sheets of tissue paper. The whole is now rendered quite plastic by well damping, and lowered on the forme, a piece of linen then laid on the top, and the "flong" well pressed into the declivities of the type until it receives a deep impression of it. The linen is now removed, and stout paper substituted, for the purpose of strengthening the mould, which, after drying and dusting with French chalk, is used for casting from.

243/70. *F. H. R.*—(1) The reply to your query *re Coffee* essence (237/3), should have read 1 lb. coffee (2) **Formaldehyde** as a Disinfectant.—Refer to *C. & D.*, January 2, 1897, page 24.



244/10. *E. H. R.*—(1) Eight hundred grains. (2) Sherry is Detannated by macerating 3ss. gelatine, cut small, in 1 gal. of wine for seven days, and decanting.

243/30. *Jason.*—A formula containing a good proportion of spermaceti will give you a "pearly" camphorice. See 1896 DIARY, page 230.

240/30. *Alec.*—Glycerine Snow, "neither sticky nor greasy" :—

Pulv. tragacanth.	...	...	gr. lxxx.
Tr. benz. simp.	...	...	3ss.
Ol. lavand.	...	...	℥x.
Ol. bergamot.	...	...	℥x.
Glycerini	...	...	5ij.
Aquæ	...	...	5iv.

Dissolve the oils in the tr. benz., and mix with the tragacanth in a mortar; then add the glycerine and water (previously mixed) all at once.

239/16. *Zingib.*—We suspect it is the presence of free tartaric acid that makes your ginger-beer clear itself.

237/48. *D. & H.*—Your sample of Dry Shampoo is practically identical with the formula given in *C. & D.*, May 8, 1897, page 748.

238/34. *H. J.* (Budapest).—We know of no poison for field-mice of such a character as to be harmless to other animals.

349/9. *W. N.*—Toilet-cream.—The following formula meets your requirements :—

Paraffin. moll. alb.	...	...	...
Adipis lanæ	...	...	5j.
P. zinci oleatis	...	...	5ij.
P. ac. borici	...	...	5ij.
Ol. rosæ geranii	...	...	℥x.
Ol. lavandulæ	...	...	℥x.

M.

240/38. *N. T. W.*—Lemonade-powders.—See *C. & D.*, June 26, 1897, page 1013.

242/34. *Beis.*—(1) Pulv. propil. coloc. co. always becomes hard on keeping, if made according to the B.P. (2) We do not see how any general interest can be served by the analysis of your ointment.

243/53. *Hibernia.*—Carnauba-wax gives a better polish than beeswax, and it is frequently used along with the latter for brown-boot polish. The mould on the polish which you made could not possibly be due to the wax. You should have told us what your polish is made of.

247/16. *A. E. K.*—We are pleased to know that you have found the Students' Corner of advantage.

247/40. *Tussis* asks us to criticise the following formula for Cough-mixture :—

	Oz.
Spt. ammon. aromat.	...
Tr. camph. co.	...
Tr. cubeb.	...
Spt. chloroformi	...
Syr. rhæados	...
Vin. ipecac.	...
Ext. glycyrrm. liq.	...
Oxymel scillæ ad	...

M.

Dose: 5j.

Considering that it enjoys a good sale, we would not advise "Tussis" to alter the formula. The active ingredient is oxymel scillæ, the rest of the ingredients being in so small quantities that they can do very little good as expectorants; but the combination will bring about a feeling of warmth about the chest which pleases customers.

247/29. *Normal.*—The same question has been answered recently.

243/61. *A. D.*—Liquorice-juice is evaporated in copper pans, which may account for the presence of bits of the metal in the brand which you mention. Communicate with the agents.

244/55. *Klondyke.*—Perhaps the note on page 43 of our issue of January 9 is what you are thinking of. If you refer to a file of the *Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry* you will find all that you want to know regarding the cyanide-extraction process.

245/49. *Moor.*—We do not know an Indian drug called tyree or jyree. Jira is the Bengalese name for caraway, and jirā for ajowan, while kela-jira is the name for little fennel. Perhaps one of these (the first most probably) is meant.

245/24. *L. Smyth.*—Carbolic-acid Pills.—One grain of acid can be made into a 2½-gr. pill with a mixture of 1 part powdered curd soap and 4 parts powdered liquorice. With absolute phenol a mere trace of water is required.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor will be obliged for replies to the following from any who can furnish the information.

253/9. The name and address of maker of rat-cheese.

252/38. Maker of the little Alabama-coon feeder.

Will "A.P.S.," whose article on the London Minor examination was published last week, please send his name and address, which we have mislaid?

## Coming Events.

We insert notices of association and society meetings in this section free if they are sent to us, on postcards, by the Wednesday of the week before the meetings are to be held.

Saturday, October 30 (to November 5).

Brewers', Mineral-water Manufacturers', &c., Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, Islington, N. The number of samples submitted in the Non-alcoholic Beverages Competition exceeds anything that has gone before. There are 235 specimens of lemonade and fancy aerated beverages to be adjudicated upon.

Monday, November 1.

Society of Chemical Industry (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 p.m. Messrs. Stanger and Blount on "The Adulteration of Portland Cement," and Dr. W. P. Evans on "An Improved Adjustable Drip-proof Bunsen."

Wednesday, November 3.

Brighton Junior Pharmaceutical Association, Newburg Hall, at 9 p.m. Mr. Geo. Long on "Mediæval Town Life."  
Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association, Exchange Rooms, Birmingham, at 9 p.m. Musical and Social Evening. Chairman, Mr. W. R. Hedges, jun.

Thursday, November 4.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, W., at 8 p.m. Papers to be read :—"The Properties of Liquid Fluorine," Professors H. Moissan and Dewar; "The Liquefaction of Air and the Detection of Impurities," Professor J. Dewar; "The Absorption of Hydrogen by Palladium at High Temperatures and Pressures," Professor Dewar.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. Musical and Social Evening.  
Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Grand Hotel, Birmingham. Reception at 8.30 p.m., followed by music and dancing.

Friday, November 5.

Röntgen Society. Opening meeting at St. Martin's Town Hall, W.C., at 8.30 p.m. Professor Silvanus Thompson will deliver the presidential address at 9 p.m. There will be an exhibition of Röntgen methods, apparatus, and photographs. Carriages at 12.

Saturday, November 27.

The fourth annual dinner of the students of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy will be held at the Holborn Restaurant. The silver and bronze medals and certificates will be distributed after the dinner to the successful students of the past session.